US forces now 10 km away from downtown Baghdad

Story below, Col. 5

SARS disrupts skeds, cultural ties, trade

ON HOLD: Welcome mats and friendships

FROM New Zealand and the Philippines to Nicaragua and Switzerland, people coming from countries affected by a mysterious killer disease have been barred from joining conventions, conducting investment mis-

SARS/ A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Friday, April 4, 2003 ★★ 76 pages / 7 sections / vol. 18 / no. 117 P15
website: www.inq7.net

Grand Chinese circus not coming to town

By Armand N. Nocum and Leah Salterio

AMID wrong diagnoses by doctors and nurses that result in "over-reporting" of unconfirmed cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in the country, the circus is not coming to town.

The "Grand National Circus of China,"

GRAND/ A18

GMA: Total war on terror

4 mosques bombed but no one hurt

By the PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—Less than six hours after the bombing of the Sasa wharf here on Wednesday night, unidentified armed men attacked four mosques in the city with grenades and automatic rifle fire.

No one was injured in what a police official later called an "agitation attack." But the death toll from the wharf bombing reached 16, as another victim died while being treated at the government-run Davao Medical Center. The number of injured was also updated to 55.

The Sasa bombing prompted President Macapagal-Arroyo to declare a "state of lawless violence" in the city, adding that she would order the military, normally in charge of external defense, to help police crack down on "lawless elements and terrorists."

The President declared total war on terrorism.

After the mosque bombings, Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte appealed for calm, saying: "We don't need vengeance."

During the 1993 bombing of the city's San Pedro Cathedral, in which seven people died and 132 others were wounded, a similar attack on mosques happened. Police said then the attacks may have been in retaliation, but yesterday police officials

GMA/ A16

RUSHING to save a life, a volunteer carries a blast victim to the hospital on Wednesday night.

BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

EDWIN BACASMAS

CHRISTOPHER MORALES JR., who lost his father and brother, is consoled by President Macapagal at the Davao Medical Center. The Morales family from Pasay came to Davao to attend a relative's funeral.

BONNEL: Only child of a sidewalk vendor.

PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

SISTER DULCE DE GUZMAN: "I love you one, I love you two..."

Sister Dulce fighter for peace, oppressed

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

HER name means sweetness, but Sr. Dulce de Guzman was a fighter, especially when she was defending the oppressed.

Rose Subido, a human rights worker in Zamboanga City, called her the "little hope of the communities here."

Sister Dulce, of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (SFIC), was among the 16 who died in the Sasa wharf bombing in Davao City on Wednesday night.

In a speech after a peace concert in Mindanao not too long ago, Sister Dulce had said: "Peace not war. Love, understanding and sharing are what we need today. In the midst of poverty, terrorism, hatred and anger we need to pause for a moment. God, what is going on with the life you gave us? I am disturbed about what is happening in our surroundings. We have to do something. We have to start with our own selves. Let peace begin with me, begin with us."

SISTER/ A16

'Ma, bring me to the hospital'; 'Son, there's no car'

DAVAO CITY—A young man died because there was no vehicle to bring him to the hospital. A father of five, who had just arrived in this city to attend a funeral, made it to one, only to die here.

The victims of Wednesday night's bombing in the Sasa wharf here were bound together by the twisted logic of death.

The last words uttered by 14-year-old Bonnel Songaling to his mother Felomina, 40, were: "Ma, bring me to the hospital."

But Felomina, a sidewalk vendor outside the Sasa wharf, could not do anything but watch her only child draw his last breath. All Felomina could say was, "Son, there is no vehicle."

Seconds later, Bonnel passed away.

"It was as if my heart was being crumpled. I wanted to bring him to the hospital but there was no vehicle available," Felomina later told the INQUIRER.

Bonnel, a sophomore student at the San Juan High School here, had apparently believed that doctors could save him from the serious head injury he sustained.

"I thought I would go crazy. After he died, my sight dimmed," Felomina, who also had shrapnel injuries, said.

All mothers remember how good their children were but Felomina said Bonnel was the epitome of a model child.

MA/ A16

Ador somersaults, clears Lacson

THE SECOND time around, Ador Mawanay surfaces on Thursday at a press conference to accuse Mr. Mike Arroyo and Col. Victor Corpus of hiring him to smear Sen. Ping Lacson.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

By Volt Contreras

THE MAN who linked Sen. Panfilo Lacson to various crimes is now saying that he had been pressured by his former military handlers to do so.

Sixteen months after the justice department and the military dropped him from custody, Angelo "Ador" Mawanay yesterday said he had fabricated what he had told the media and the Senate about Lacson's alleged criminal activities as then chief of the Philippine National Police.

In a hotel room press conference arranged by the Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino, Mawanay retracted his charges against Lacson but replaced these with allegations directed at President Macapagal-Arroyo's husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo.

He said that from December 2001 up to the last few weeks, Arroyo had been hiring him for his "hacking" skills to electronically transfer funds from Lacson's "bank accounts" to three designated accounts, and to "simulate fictitious e-mail correspondence between and among" Lacson, the senator's subordinate and ally Michael Ray Aquino who is now in hiding abroad, and a nonexistent Chinese

ADOR/ A19

PING FOR PRESIDENT NA SIYA!

Ping no villain, says his new media handler

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

TALK about enlightenment.

Newspaperman Ermin Garcia Jr., son and namesake of the crusading journalist who was shot dead in 1966, is now media adviser and strategist of presidential candidate Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson.

"He's not exactly the villain the media have portrayed him to be," Garcia told the INQUIRER by way of explaining his new job—and new client. "From my limited association with him, I can say that he is the

PING/ A19

US forces 10 km away from Baghdad; 500 Iraqis killed

THE WAR DAY 15

SOUTHWEST OF BAGHDAD—United States troops, powering their way to within sight of Baghdad's skyline, reached the capital city's airport yesterday after fierce fighting with Iraqi forces two weeks into the war.

Advance armored units of the US 3rd Infantry Division were just 10 km from the southern edge of Baghdad early morning Thursday (about 6 p.m. Manila time yesterday), US military sources in the area said, as the Americans moved on Baghdad from two directions to choke off the regime of Saddam Hussein.

"I can confirm they're outside the airport," Ma. Randi Steffy, a spokesperson for the US Central Command in Qatar, said of the facility southwest of the capital.

"The dagger is clearly pointed at the heart of the regime and will remain pointed at it until the regime is gone," Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks told a news conference at US Central Command's forward base in Qatar.

The aerial blitz against Baghdad showed no signs of abating as dull explosions from the edge of the city continued during the morning after a night of heavy bombardment on its southern and southeastern fringes.

US officers said some 500 Iraqi troops were killed, including members of the Special Republican Guard, Saddam's toughest unit, in clashes with US forces for a key bridge some 30 km southwest of Baghdad.

A BBC reporter traveling with the Americans said thousands of US Army vehicles crossed the Euphrates Riverheading toward Baghdad after a "fierce fight" to seize a dual-carriageway bridge.

He described a scene of "Iraq prisoners on their knees, with American soldiers standing over

US FORCES/ A18

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The whole country will experience partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms mostly over Mindanao.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/04/04/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

DOJ seeks raffle of cases vs Ping

By Michael Lim Ubac

GOVERNMENT lawyers yesterday asked the Quezon City Regional Trial Court to raffle off the revived Kuratong Baleleng cases, since the original assignment of the cases to Branch 81 was not attended by a raffle.

In an urgent and ex-parte motion, Department of Justice prosecutors led by Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño said the 11 multiple murder cases filed on June 6, 2001 had only been "assigned" to Branch 81.

"No raffle was conducted despite the requirement of Supreme Court Circular No. 7," Zuño said.

The SC circular issued on Sept. 23, 1974 requires that all cases filed in court, "in stations or groupings where there are two or more branches, shall be assigned or distributed to the different branches by raffle."

Zuño also cited the change in docket numbers and other particulars of the cases filed against Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson and several of his former subordinates in the police service, as a reason for raffling off the cases.

He said the cases pending in Branch 81, which is presided over by Judge Theresa Yadao, bear "Criminal Case Nos. Q-99-81679 to 89, which were dismissed by the same branch on March 29, 1999."

The new cases, which were revived by the DOJ in June 2001, bear Case Nos. 01-101102 to 01-101112.

The old cases had implicated 26 accused, 11 as principals and 15 as accessories, while the new cases involve 34 accused, all charged as principals, including Lacson, who has since become a senator.

"Wherefore, it is respectfully prayed... that the instant cases be immediately raffled pursuant to the aforecited SC circular," the motion said.

"We have new information, new witnesses, new docket numbers, so the cases must be raffled off," it added.

The motion was prepared by State Prosecutors Peter Ong and Ruben Zacarias, and QC Assistant City Prosecutors Conrado Jamolin and Raymond Jonathan Lledo.

The DOJ filed the motion two days after the Supreme Court, voting 10-4 with one abstention, ordered the reopening of the criminal cases against Lacson, Chief Superintendents Jewel Canson and Romeo Acop, Senior. Supt. Francisco Zubia and 30 of their officers and men.

Zuño was quick to state that the motion to raffle off the cases was not a reflection on the competence or impartiality of Yadao.

The INQUIRER tried to get a comment from Yadao but she has refused to give statements to the media since Tuesday when the Supreme Court came out with its decision to revive the cases.

On Wednesday, Zuño created an eight-man panel headed by himself and Quezon City Prosecutor Claro Arellano as chair and vice chair, respectively, to prosecute the multiple murder cases.

He said the panel was "ready for any court skirmishes" with Lacson, who had declared on Monday his intention to run for president in 2004.

Lacson has 15 days to file a reconsideration of the SC ruling.

In the meantime, the DOJ continues to prepare for the trial.

Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong and Zuño told reporters yesterday the DOJ was preparing to reinstate Armando Capili as one of the witnesses against Lacson.

Capili, then a reporter for the tabloid Remate, said he had seen policemen leading eight men with bound hands out of a "safehouse" in Parañaque.

The eight reportedly turned up among the 11 Kuratong gang members who were killed in the alleged shoot-out with police on Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, on May 17, 1995.

The DOJ will also try to contact Jane Gomez and SPO2 Corazon de la Cruz, former witnesses who recanted their testimonies, to testify in the re-trial, Zuño said. *With Agnes E. Donato*

I will survive, Lacson says of cases' revival

SEN. Panfilo Lacson yesterday expressed confidence he would weather the revived Kuratong Baleleng cases.

"I still believe in our criminal justice system, that is why I am filing a motion for reconsideration," Lacson said.

In short, he was counting on the Supreme Court to reverse its decision reopening of the infamous rubout case.

Lacson made the statement during the 35th commencement exercises of the Isabela State University in Ilagan, Isabela, where he was guest of honor.

In a press conference that followed, Lacson said he was not nervous about the high court's decision. "In the original case," he said, "we (were) not the principals."

He was referring to police generals Jewel Canson, Romeo Acop and Francisco Zubia. In the case before Branch 81 of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court, the four had been charged as accessories.

The Department of Justice is trying to make it appear like an entirely different case, Lacson said. "How can that be, when they (justice officials) are using the same evidence, the same suspects and the same victims?" he asked. *(See top story.)*

Militant groups wondered why the cases were being revived only now.

"(This) delayed action taken by the Supreme Court has reduced the people's case to a mere fistfight between the Macapagal and Lacson camps," Fernando Hicap, chair of the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) said yesterday, accusing Malacañang of exploiting the case to eliminate Lacson from the 2004 polls or get concessions from the senator. *C. Balana, G. Lacuarta and J. Javellana*

LPG prices come down

PETRON Corp., Pilipinas Shell and TotalFinaElf Phil. slashed the price of their liquefied petroleum gas by P1 per kilogram midnight last night.

Virginia Ruivivar, Petron public affairs manager, said the price cut reflected the decrease in crude costs.

Petron Gasul, Shellane and Total Gaz now cost between P300 and P315 per 11-kg cylinder. *Ronnel W. Domingo*

RUSH! FOR SALE

OVER 107,000 SQM. OF LAND AREA *WITH*
OVER 37,500 FLR. AREA OF CONCRETE
WAREHOUSE TYPE
BUILDINGS IN THE PASIG / CAINTA AREA.
WITH ACCESS FROM MERCEDES AVE.
(WHOLE OR PART).
INTERESTED PARTIES MAY CALL
CELL # 0917-3980908, BROKERS WELCOME.

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION

Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER

RECONDITIONED

AMAZING 4- IN -1
COPIER • FAX • PRINTER • SCANNER

BRAND NEW

RICOH FT 3113 for only P15,000

Canon MPC 400 P30,500

Canon MPC 600 F P40,000

LAMINATOR P3,800
THERMAL BINDER P8,500
RING BINDER P8,000

Other copiers also available:
FT 3320, FT 3013, FT 3313
FT 4415, FT 4418, FT 4220

SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 • 899-7075 to 76 • 899-7023

MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City ☎ 255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo., ☎ 963-5055 to 56 • Fax: 963-5059 • Digitel: 860-0383

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given to the public that

Dr. Wilfredo John Isaac, Jr.

whose picture appears above is no longer connected in whatever capacity with the St. Augustine School of Nursing on account of his termination for cause due to loss of trust and confidence.

A criminal case for falsification of commercial documents has been filed against him at the Office of the the City Prosecutor of Manila docketed as I.S. No. 03-D-10381.

Any transaction entered by the said person for and in behalf of St. Augustine shall not be honored by the company.

The Management
St. Augustine School of Nursing

FEW UNITS LEFT

VELLAGIO TOWER

For Elegance and comfort living

READY FOR OCCUPANCY

NO RESERVATION FEE
DOWNPAYMENT

For as low as P1.4-M

VISIT US:
WAJ REALTY DEV'T, INC.
Tel: 400-8407
525-1787

HLURB License to Sell #04889

Model Units Available for Viewing
Harrison Plaza
La Salle
Quirino Ave.
San Andres
PGH
NBI
MCDO
Taft Ave.
L. Guinto

Clear TV Wherever!!

DREAM

HBO, Star Sports, AXN, ESPN, Cinemax, CNN BBC, Fox News, Disney, NHK, Cartoon Net, ABC, National Geo., Tech TV, Fox News, Hallmark, Viva, Local Ch... etc

As Low As: P4,900 Digit All SN-951

Dream Satellite Easy to Own Plan

Dream750*	Dream550*	Dream350
P4,900	P6,900	P9,900
47ch.@	39ch.@	26ch.@
P750/mo.	P550/mo.	P350/mo.

*Subject to aprvl., min.12mo. subscription Dream350 w/FREE 3 mo. Dream750. Exclusive of Plan & Installation Fee. For existing subscribers we accept prepaid cards reloading arrangement.

delco Call 8111411, 0917-8461411, email: sales@delco.com.ph We Install Nationwide!

TWO OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST POWERFUL VOICES... TOGETHER AT LAST!

MARTIN NIEVERA REGINE VELASQUEZ

LIVE! AT THE ARANETA COLISEUM
MAY 9 & 10, 2003 • FRIDAY & SATURDAY • 8:30 PM
TICKETS AT P175 • P400 • P800 • P1200 WITH PRIME LIMITED SEATS AT P1800 AVAILABLE AT

A very limited engagement only.
Reserve your tickets now!

SM TICKETNET 911-5555
MAXIMEDIA TICKETING OFFICE 551-7777 551-8999
(plus a 3% ticketron service charge)

Summer Sale!

Visit the Hottest Furniture SALE

From April 2 to 13

Main Showroom

UNION SQUARE SHOWROOM
"Giving the best of Filipino craftsmanship"
Manufacturer & Exporter of Rattan, Wicker, Wrought Iron Furniture and Furnishings

T. Morato Ave.
67 Sct. Rallos St., cor. T. Morato Ave., Q.C.
Tel.: 929-4410; 926-7750

SM Southmall 2nd Level,
Interior Center, Las Piñas
Tel: 800-8764 / 65 Fax: (632) 800-8765

GOLDEN SHELL AWARDEE EXPORT EXCELLENCE

E-mail: unionsq@i-next.net
Website: www.unionsquare.com.ph

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0719 Series of 2003

Learn the ABC's of Home Decoration.
Join a Free orientation seminar on April 5 - 10:00 am at Union Square Showroom.
LIMITED PARTICIPANTS ONLY
Make your reservations now. Call for Silva.

CURE BAD BREATH NOW!

Now it's here... America's revolutionary health products, THERABREATH system ™. The amazing discovery for effective treatment of chronic *bad breath, bitter/sour tastes, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, post nasal drip, awful morning breath.*

Bad breath is caused by sulfur producing bacteria on your tongue and throat, not in stomach or sinus. That's why mouthwashes and capsules don't really work.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Call for free delivery within Metro Manila
Tel: 890-8380, 895-5532, 877-2466, 895-6775, 0917-7965859

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS

RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Big Summer Sale!

P14,999. ONLY
POWDER TYPE FT 3320 For Personal Office Use

BRAND NEW! POWDER TYPE RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
P49,900. ONLY

P30,500. ONLY
BRAND NEW! FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER

Guaranteed Big Savings!
Katun TONERS & PARTS
For Use in SHARP, MITA, CANON RISO, TOSHIBA, MINOLTA, ETC
Also Available
• Trade-in (Liquid / Powder Copier
• Repair of most Copier Brands
• Ink for all Computer Printers

*GOOD TILL MAY 31, 2003

COPYTRADE,
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-8216

• Lease To Own/ Rental Call. 736-0031
• Ringbinders / Cutters Riso / Gestetner Machine, Riso, Etc.

'Kuratong' cops ordered relieved

POLICE Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. yesterday ordered the relief of police officials implicated in the Kuratong Baleleng case to ensure their presence at the trial.

The officials, he said, would be recalled from their present assignments and ordered to report to Headquarters Support Service at Camp Crame, Quezon City, so they would be easily available once the trial starts.

"It must be done because, if there is one, we want them available for the trial," Ebdane told reporters.

At least three of the more than 30 police officers charged in the case had optionally retired—former PNP chief Sen. Panfilo Lacson, Deputy Director General Jewel Canson and Director Romeo Acop.

Canson flew to the United States in February and has not returned, according to officials. Two accused, Senior Superintendents Michael Ray Aquino and Cesar Mancao, are also believed to be in the US after going "absent without official leave" (AWOL) in connection with the Salvador "Bubby" Dacer case.

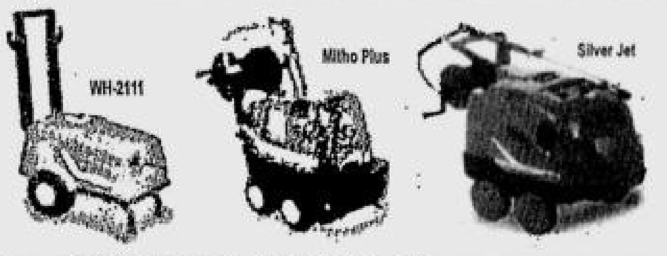
Chief Supt. Francisco Zubia Jr. is on "floating" status but was assigned to the HSS.

The highest-ranking officials still in active service are Supt. Gil Meneses of the National Capital Region Police Office, Supt. Jose Erwin Villacorte of the Traffic Management Group in Laguna, and Senior Insp. Ceasar Tannagan of Region V.

Another accused, Supt. Glenn Dumlao, is in police Intelligence Group (IG) custody for his alleged involvement in the November 2000 kidnap-murder of publicist Dacer and his driver, Emmanuel Corbito. *TJ Burgonio and Jerome Aning*

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
MEDICAL DEVICES DISTRIBUTORS
Imported/Excellent Quality/Affordable
I.V. Cannula (Gauge 16 to 24)
I.V. Administration Set
(Y-Type, Infusion, Microdrip)
I.V. Blood Administration Set
Measured Volume Set
SHILOHMED CORP.
Contact: LITO/CHAT
TEL. 831-8796/550-1252

PC BODEGA
•New Manila 781-8465 / 781-4481
•Viramall Shopping Center 724-6793 / 724-3007
PC DEPOT
•SM North EDSA Cyber Zone 925-4565 / 925-4562
•Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall 682-8618 / 682-8619
•Viramall Shopping Center 725-8519 / 725-8792
Guaranteed Best Price & All Brand New Components !!!
Pentium 4 1.7 Ghz
Jetway S447 Board, 256MB DDR RAM
64MB GeForce w/TV-out & w/ Audio
40GB HDD (72rpm), 1.44MB FDD
LG 48x24x48x CDWriter, ATX Case
17" Color Monitor, 56K Modem
HP 3325 DeskJet Printer, 550W AVR
Subwoofer Speaker
₱30,600
Celeron 1.7 Ghz
Jetway S447 Board, 128MB DDR RAM
32MB Riva TNT2 Video & w/ Audio
40GB HDD, 52x CDRom, 1.44MB FDD
15" Monitor, ATX Case, 56KModem
550W AVR, 180W Spker
₱18,400
AMD Duron 1.1 Ghz
RedFox Board, 128MB SDRAM
Integrated Video & Audio
40GB HDD, 52x CDRom, 1.44MB FDD
14" Monitor, ATX Case, 56KModem
550W AVR, 180W Spker
₱15,600
More PC Packages are available.
MONITOR LCD
Conquest 14.1" [illegible]
Hyundai 15" [illegible]
SEAGATE
20GB 5400rpm – 3,200
40GB 5400rpm – 3,700
40GB 7200rpm – 3,900
80GB 5400rpm – 5,500
WWW.PCBODEGA.COM/ WWW.PCBODEGA.COM.PH



INDUSTRIAL FACTORIES ◆ JANITORIAL SERVICES ◆ POULTRIES ◆ SHIPYARDS ◆ TAXI FLEETS
We Offer The World's Most Trusted High Pressure Washers & Vacuum Cleaners!
FROM THE NO. 1 IN HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
Major Credit Cards Accepted.
Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Exclusively Distributed By:
CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M.Orosa St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES: 646 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709
162 Del Monte Ave. Nr. Cor. Roosevelt Ave. Tel. 4101086 • 3724429
CAR WASHER ◆ POULTRIES ◆ SHIPYARDS ◆ RESTAURANT ◆ GAS STATIONS ◆ HOTELS
JANITORIAL SERVICES ◆ SHIPYARDS ◆ CONFECTIONERIES ◆ HOTELS
POULTRIES ◆ SHIPYARDS ◆ RESTAURANT ◆ GAS STATIONS ◆ HOTELS

Forty Winks
Everything that's good in beds.
NEW ARRIVAL!
IMPORTED DESIGNER SHEETINGS

THE WORLD'S NO. 1
Sealy® POSTUREPEDIC MATTRESS
THE LARGEST SELLING MATTRESS IN THE U.S.!
SM NORTH EDSA 9276813
SM MEGAMALL 6356812-13
SM BACOOR (046)4171972
SM CEBU (32)2321632
SM SOUTHMALL 8001110-11
BESIDE GREENBELT PIONEER HOUSE Legazpi st. cor Paseo de Roxas 8105647
MAGALLANES San Gregorio cor. SSHighway 8541850-57
OPEN DAILY 10:00am to 9:00pm
WOMAN THE STORE Glorietta 3, Makati City 8100174
STA. LUCIA 6817498 6817484
EVER GOTESCO COMMONWEALTH 9320998-99 LOC. 103
FIESTA WORLD MALL (043)9810790 0917-4186552
COUNTRY LIFESTYLE Santolan cor. Ortigas Ave. 7240409
OPEN DAILY 9:00am to 8:00pm

'Tay, ang puso mo!

☑ Are you 40 years old or older?
☒ Do you exercise everyday?
☒ Do you eat a balanced diet?
☑ Is your waist getting bigger?

Maybe you should start taking COR-30 everyday?

Helps prevent Heart Attack!
Aspirin has been proven to help prevent heart attack. It helps reduce the number of *"bad prostaglandins"* in the blood. *"Bad prostaglandins"* are the reason why blood clots occur. These blood clots could help trigger a heart attack.

Less "side effects"
There are people who experience "side effects" like ulcer when taking aspirin. COR-30 is the "lowest dose" aspirin. Because of this, you can experience less or even no aspirin induced "side effects". However, being "low dose" does not necessarily mean "low efficacy". This does not diminish its ability to lessen *"bad prostaglandins"* in the blood and help protect you against heart attack.

COR-30 is made specially for the heart!
Heart ailments are expensive to treat! You are not the only one who will suffer but also your whole family. Help prevent it from happening by taking COR-30 everyday. Because of its very affordable price and effect on your body, it was made specially for you! Take one COR-30 everyday for your peace of mind against heart attack.

For more information, please call the COR-30 Hotline: 920-1911
Consult your doctor.

30 milligrams
ASPIRIN
COR-30
Low-dose Aspirin.
Made specially for the heart!
Pascual Laboratories, Inc.
Source: *New England Journal of Medicine*

YOUR LEGS: Are they FAT and HEAVY?

Get 20% OFF
plus 1 FREE NuLEGS DETOXITRIM Treatment upon enrollment from March 31-April 5, 2003 only!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1312, Series of 2003

Concealing your heavy hips and unattractive leg shape won't solve your problem--- **Marie-France** will! Trim down excess fat and flab to reveal shapelier, sexier and lovelier legs that will surely stand out!

Don't miss this special offer!
Call Marie-France and get lovelier legs now!

Uncover Your Curves
Marie France
Bodyline International®

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	TIMOG	BINONDO	ALABANG	SHAW	CONGRESSIONAL	PAMPANGA	CEBU
816-1262	687-1216	372-6635	242-2199	809-9619	534-5898	920-8021	961-2981/91	233-7637
815-2052	687-1218	372-6636	243-8230	850-4574	534-5877	920-8047	860-6921/22	233-7639
819-3340	638-3028	410-3723 • 410-3724	242-3299 • 242-2399	842-4633 • 842-6887	717-0071 • 717-0072	920-7675		233-7641

NO EXERCISE MACHINES • NO WORKOUT CLASSES • NO PILLS OR INJECTIONS • NO HUNGER PAINS • NO MEDICATIONS • NO SURGERY

5 Pinoys acquitted of murder in Kuwait

By Michael Lim Ubac

FIVE Filipinos accused of murdering a Canadian have been acquitted by the Kuwaiti Supreme Court, the foreign affairs department announced yesterday.

The Kuwaiti Court of Cassation, the Kuwaiti's highest court, exonerated Mary Jane Bitos and four other Filipinos—Teody M. Tomaro, Jaime Vinuya, Rosalia Baclig and Noraisa T. Esick.

They had been accused of killing Canadian Luc Ethier in Kuwait.

"We receive messages of thanks from families for helping these Filipinos who have been falsely accused of murdering a Canadian national," said Foreign Secretary Blas Ople.

"So they can now be released from custody, and transported home safely," added Ople who disclosed that the Department of Foreign Affairs was now working for the immediate repatriation of the five.

"They have expressed their strong desire to return home, as their being in detention has caused them to lose their jobs in Kuwait," said Ople.

Ople said the acquittal came after four and five months of marathon hearings.

"Bitos and company were initially acquitted by the Kuwaiti Court of Appeals, but the (Kuwaiti) government prosecutors elevated the case to the SC," said Ople.

When informed of their acquittal, the five "expressed elation and expressed their deepest thanks and appreciation for all the assistance and concern that the Philippine government has accorded them," said Ambassador-designate to Kuwait Bayani V. Mangibin.

"The decision shows that justice prevails, no matter how long and how hard the path to finding the truth," said Mangibin.

Ople also announced that a Filipina worker in Cario, Egypt, was repatriated to Manila on March 28 upon the consent of Egyptian authorities.

The Filipino, whose identity was withheld by the DFA, was charged with conniving a fellow worker who stole one million Egyptian pounds from their employers. She was acquitted.

PulmoMist
For Adults P 3,700 until supply lasts
Handheld Ultrasonic Nebulizer

- For Asthma, Bronchitis Emphysema and COPD
- Automatic shut-off every 10 mins. while in use. 3 yrs warranty
- The cheapest AC/DC battery operated nebulizer.

For home and car use.
Available in optional rechargeable battery pack.
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by
medical center trading corp.
Pioneer St. cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City * Tels.: 631-1715 * 631-9355 * 637-8504
Fax (632) 631-7699 * e-mail Address: medcon@info.com.ph
Pasig 631-1715 loc. 212 * Manila 711-8374 * Cebu (032) 254-2367 * Davao (082) 222-4404
Iloilo (033) 320-1413 * Lipa (043) 757-2051 * Pampanga (045) 961-7892
Available in mercury drug Nationwide

Promo Extended
Lakeside Farms
Fruit-bearing Trees, Fish-rich Lakes, Resort Amenities
A Farm so complete and now get a designer Cabana FREE !
60 sq.m. Kamansi Cabana for every lot purchase in Phase I
SAN PABLO CITY LAGUNA
For More Details Visit : www.lakeside-farms.com
Or Call: (02) 807-8405 / 842-3671 or Fax: 809-1363

Mindanao war creating new batch of rebels, expert says

By Carlito Pablo

THE WAR in Mindanao is creating a new generation of rebels—and possibly terrorists—among children traumatized by the conflict, a professor of psychiatry from the University of the Philippines said yesterday.

Dr. June Pagaduan-Lopez made the observation following her address to a forum on the "costs of war" in Mindanao sponsored by the Women's Business Council Philippines and The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service.

Lopez, who is in charge of the psychological trauma and human rights program of the UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies, had recently worked with children of Pikit, North Cotabato, to help them deal with trauma.

Pikit was the site of heavy fighting recently between government forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, when the military bombarded then overran the MILF's main headquarters there, the Buliok Complex.

The assault resulted in the exodus of 40,163 families, or 214,072 individuals, who became refugees.

"Children are feeling a deep-seated anger against the government because of the war and this is creating a new generation of rebels and possibly terrorists," Lopez said.

She said the conflict in Mindanao continues to fuel the historic animosity of Filipino Muslims toward the national government, which they regard as a colonizing force.

"The forebears of these children were rebels and with what they are going through, they might well become rebels," she said. "What we have is a vicious cycle."

Lopez said hostilities between the government and the MILF have not ceased since the fighting erupted in the second week of February.

As of Wednesday, 36 children had died of disease in the cramped refugee camps, while 366 others were being treated. In all, some 40,000 refugees remain at the camps because ongoing skirmishes keep them from going home.

"There are schoolchildren, nine to 11 years old, who think the proper way to grow up is to become a rebel," Lopez said. "Children there are now thinking that violence is the only way for them."

She said the population at large affected by the war are also "angry at the government and feel a sense of betrayal."

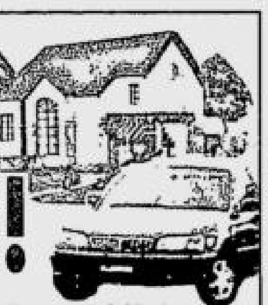
Unless these feelings are addressed, she said, any efforts by the government to undertake rehabilitation and development programs in the war-ravaged areas would not succeed.

"It's like (US President George W.) Bush telling the Iraqis, 'we'll rehabilitate Iraq after we destroy you,'" Lopez said.

At the forum, Secretary Teresita Deles, convenor of the Malacañang-led National Anti-Poverty Commission, admitted there had been "quite bloody" discussions in the Cabinet regarding the military offensive in North Cotabato.

Deles, who is identified with the civil society bloc and is counted among the "doves" in government, said that since the fighting had run its course, it was the responsibility of the government to provide the resources for rehabilitation.

"We must win the peace piece-by-piece," she said.

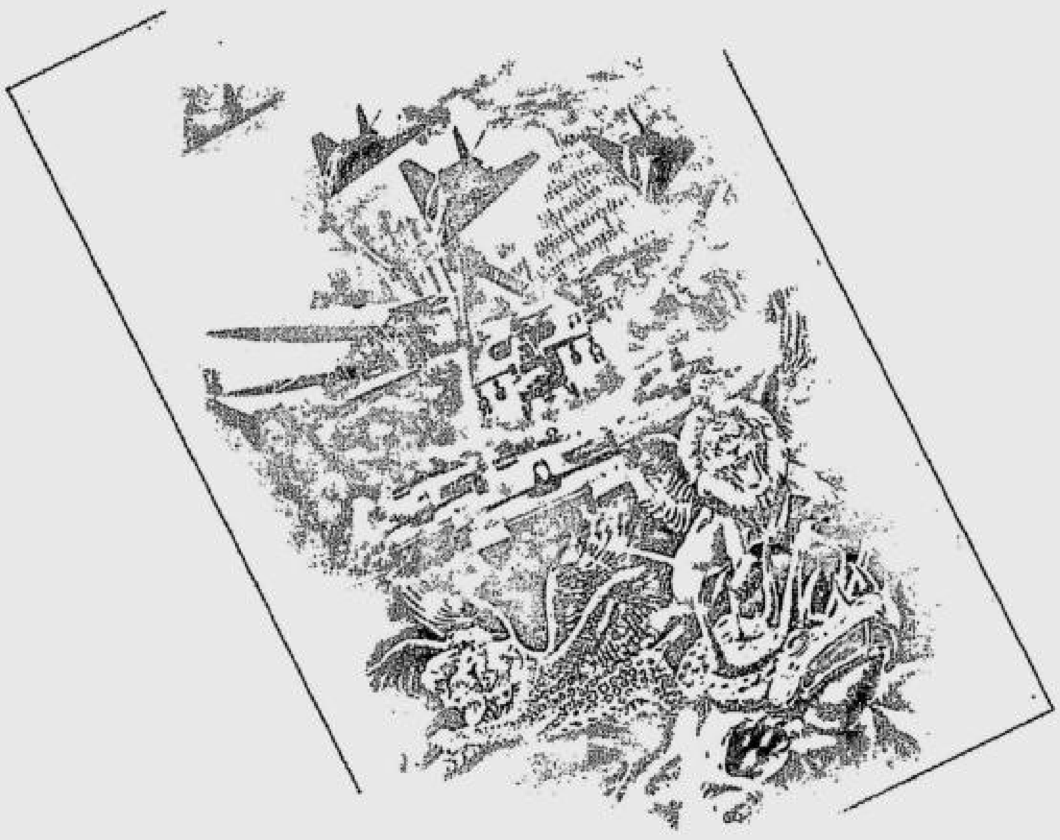

FREE CAR!!!
Drive a Brand New Toyota 1.3 XL *
with your purchase of Casa California
Hispanic architecture fashioned after the charming California-style houses, Casa California is located on prime land located along Alabang-Zapote road.
PROMO EXTENDED a special house and lot package come complete with a brand new Toyota XL
* For house and lot package beginning at 4.5 M
For Details Visit www.imperialhomescorp.com
Call (02) 807-8405/842-3671 or
Email to info@imperialhomescorp.com

Cessna crash

SAN JOSE, Batangas—A Cessna-185 plane crashed into a coconut plantation here at 4 p.m. yesterday.

The plane was a total wreck, but its pilot and lone passenger, David Lockwood, 38, a British resident of Vietnam, survived. Lockwood was flying solo to Manila from Boracay when the accident happened. *Mei Magsino*

FREE BOOK
Where are we now in
PROPHECY?



About a third of the Holy Bible is prophecy. The Bible reveals a prophetic time line from the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar of the Babylonian Empire to the time of Jesus Christ leading to the end of the age and the eventual establishment of the Kingdom of God. The Bible accurately foretells specific events—in detail—many years, sometimes centuries and millennia, before they occur. Many of these prophecies are being fulfilled before our eyes.

Discover what the Bible has prophesied concerning our time and the future of mankind in our booklet *Can You Understand Bible Prophecy?* Request for your free copy today!

Request for your FREE copy of *Can You Understand Bible Prophecy?* Now!
NAME
ADDRESS
Send your requests to:
The Church of God, International (Phils.)
P.O. Box 2450 Makati City, Metro Manila
1284 Philippines
Tel/Fax (632) 824-3277
E-mail info@cgiphils.org
This booklet is being offered free for the asking with no obligations whatsoever.

To download an e-copy visit our website at
http://www.cgiphils.org

Invitation to a Bible Study
What: Video showing and interactive discussion
When: April 5, 2003
Where: EDSA Plaza Hotel
Lubang Function Room
Mandaluyong City (2-5 p.m.)
Oleander Function Room Amigo Terrace Hotel, Cor. Iznart & Delgado Sts., Iloilo City (2-5 p.m.)
Mezzanine Hall
Lucky Fortune Hotel
Abella Street
Naga City (9-11 a.m.)
Admission is free!

OFFICE CLUB.com THE NEW WAY TO OFFICE www.officeclub.com.ph
COMPLETE SCHOOL / OFFICE SUPPLIES, OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

ELECTRONIC CHECKWRITER
P 6,150.00
SANYO FAX MACHINE
P 5,695.00
EXECUTIVE COLLECTION MD-1600-3
Desk only
P 8,500.00
MANUAL COMBINATION
P 2,145.00
LATERAL FILE CABINET
from P 6,650.00 up
FAX PAPER 210 216 x 30
from P 53.00 up
SP-2 PUNCHER
P 70.00
DETECTOR
P 450.00
FOLDING CHAIR
P 295.00
CHAIRMAN
P 7,600.00
LECTURE TABLE
P 3,250.00
EPSON RIBBON
P 100.00 up
COMPUTER FORM
from P 295.00 up
PAPER SHREDDER
P 1,975.00

MANILA
344 Nueva St. Binondo Manila
Tel No. 244-7211 up to 15
Fax No. 243-1876
E-Mail Add: sales@officeclub.com.ph

MAKATI
814 A. Arnaiz Ave. Makati City
Tel No. 752-8378 up to 81
Fax No. 752-8376
E-Mail Add: oc_makati@yahoo.com

SAN JUAN
55 Annapolis St. Greenhills, San Juan Metro Manila
Tel No. 724-7282 / 724-7085

Chairs To Go Clearance Sale!

Buy 1 take 1 same item FREE!
Price Range: P 900.00 & up
From March 15 to April 15, 2003 only
DEXTERTON CORPORATION
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St. (Near Damar Village) Quezon City
Tel.: 361-6006 ; 362-1111 Fax No.362-0524
E-mail :dexterton@dexterton.com www.dexterton.com
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-181 Series of 2003

CASH FROM NEW YORK,
RIYADH, LONDON,
NOW ONLY MINUTES AWAY.
WESTERN UNION | MONEY TRANSFER
The fastest way to send and receive money worldwide.

Wish you were here.
Options
Back

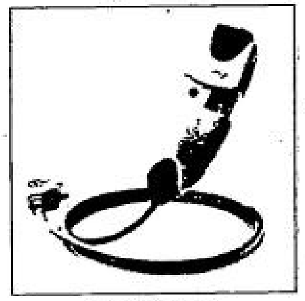
NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

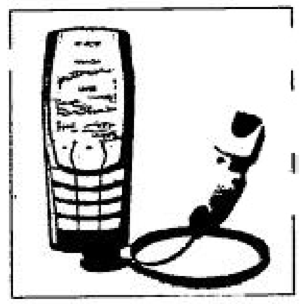
Now, messages that will captivate your senses.

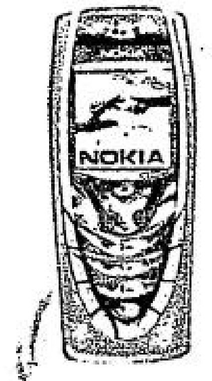
Move beyond text with Nokia and Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS). With MMS, your text messages come alive with full-color pictures. Every message you receive or send will touch the heart, excite the eye and delight the imagination.

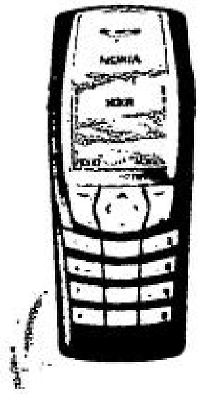
Get into MMS with Nokia. We give you a wide range of MMS-capable phones like the Nokia 7210, Nokia 6610 and Nokia 6100. Simply attach the camera headset, take a picture and add it to your message. Nokia and MMS, it's a cool, new way to connect to life.

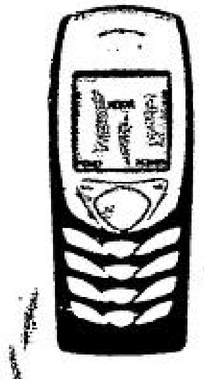
For inquiries, email us at write_nokia@nokia.com or call Nokia Careline at 886-1234.


Camera Headset


Attach the camera headset to your Nokia phone.

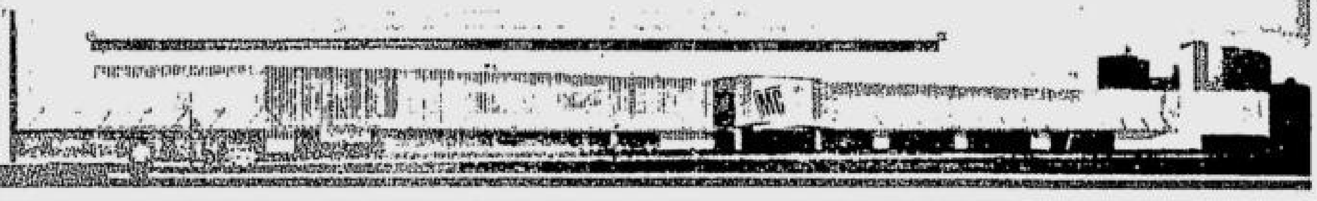

NOKIA 7210

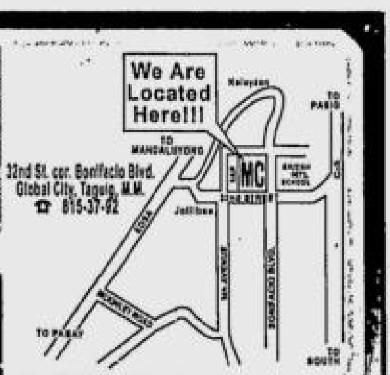

NOKIA 6610


NOKIA 6100

NOW OPEN

MC HOME DEPOT Fort Bonifacio





FREE
MARBLE CARE &
MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP
FROM APRIL 4 TO 13
EVERY 4PM
TO BE CONDUCTED BY TERESA MARBLE
AT
MC FORT BONIFACIO

MC HOME DEPOT
SUMMER SALE
April 4-13, 2003

MAKATI
EDSA corner Pasong Tamo
Makati City
Tel.: 893-3070
Fax: 812-9426

ORTIGAS
168 Ortigas corner
Meralco Avenue
Ortigas Center
Pasig City
Tel.: 636-6944
Fax: 635-0144

FORT BONIFACIO
32nd St., corner
Bonifacio Blvd.
Fort Bonifacio, Global City, Taguig
Tel.: 815-3792
Fax: 818-1265

PROMO MECHANICS

1. Every P 1,000.00 single or accumulated purchase/s (during the promo period) from any MC Home Branch as well as participating booths in all MC Home branches entitles the customer to one (1) raffle coupon.
2. Customers must indicate their name, address, contact number and affix signature on the raffle coupon and drop it in designated drop boxes located in any of our branches. Deadline for submission of entries is on April 13, 2003, 8:00. p.m.
3. Raffle draw will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2003 at MC Home Depot (Fort Bonifacio) Global City, Taguig at 4:00 P.M. Prizes at stake at the raffle are:

   Ten (10) winners for YORK Airconditioners .746kwh (1HP) Window Type
   Ten (10) winners for KELVINATOR Airconditioners .746kwh (1HP) Window Type
   Ten (10) winners for PHILIPS VCD Components (2200W)
   Ten (10) winners for CONDURA Refrigerators .18m3 (6 cu. Ft.)

   A DTI Representative will be invited to witness the draw.
4. A participant can win only once. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, the prize of higher value shall be awarded to him/her.
5. All prizes are non-convertible to cash, credit or kind.
6. All prizes are tax-free.
7. Winners will be notified through registered mail & telephone. Prizes can be claimed at the Administration Office of the respective branch where the purchase was made as specified on the registered notice.
8. To claim prize, winners must present their letter of notification from MC Home Builder's Depot (Makati), MC Home Depot (Ortigas) or MC Home Depot (Fort Bonifacio), a valid ID (i.e., passport, driver's license, voter's affidavit, SSS/TIN card) and the raffle claim stub for verification.
9. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from the receipt of notification shall be forfeited with prior approval from the DTI.
10. Employees of MC Home Builder's Depot (Makati), MC Home Depot (Ortigas) & MC Home Depot (Fort Bonifacio), both its suppliers, and tenants including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are not allowed to join the promotion.
11. Promo period is from April 4 to April 13, 2003 only.

ART OF WATER TECHNOLOGY

Home Maintenance
(Nuts & Screws)

SELLEYS LIQUID NAILS

UNICON®
ELECTRIC WIRE & CABLE

Durable®
WIRE PRODUCTS

TOTO
A WORLD LEADER
IN BATHROOM FIXTURES

CEILAST
CEILING BOARD

Handy
FURNITURE
IMPORTER · WHOLESALER · RETAILER

ideya
SYSTEM SPECIALISTS
(Formerly JONFER)

American Standard
Designed for your Quality of Living

IGM
ITALICA GRANITE & MARBLES

GREE
Air Conditioner

MACO-Küchen

ROBLES HERITAGE
Dealer of High Quality Indoor/Outdoor Lighting Fixtures.

PHILIPPINE CLASSIC STONE

MUEBLES DE PARIS

Muebles ITALIANO

Multi-Line
Multi-Line Design Systems

NARDI
100% ITALIAN HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

STONE AGE
Manufactured Stone for Wall Claddings

Domus
INTERIOR CENTER

Teknomöbel
Furniture technology enriching lives

HDF LAMINATE FLOORING
Hans Flooring
HÖHRINGER • GERMANY

TIMBERCO
Lumber, Cornice, Moulding

TMQP

VWP
Valley Wood Products
Architectural Ornaments

WaterCare®
MARKETING PHILIPPINES

sapporo
WORLDWIDE SAPPORO PRODUCTS

tomaz
International Trading
Chicken Rotisserie & Kitchen Equipment

OYAMA®
オヤマ

Orion Lamps

WITEX®
LAMINATE FLOORING

LIGHTS ON
MARKETING

TAMSONS

Furni Shop
WOOD & WROUGHT IRON
FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES

PER DTI - NCR PERMIT NO. 1428 SERIES OF 2003

Business willing to fund anti-corruption drive–SWS

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE BUSINESS community is willing to finance an anti-corruption drive in the government but admits that it needs to set the example by correcting widespread dishonesty in business practices.

A survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations found out that most businesses were willing to give 2 percent of their net income to fund a campaign to reduce corruption in the country by half within 10 years.

Sixty percent of 500 top and middle-managers surveyed said if government corruption could be reduced to the level of Singapore, their net income would rise as a result.

The business community, however, prefers that the private sector, rather than the government, manage such a fund.

But at the same time, the enterprise managers revealed a high prevalence of dishonest business practices in their ranks. Only 35 percent said that all companies in their sector issue receipts while 18 percent said that all in their sector keep only one set of accounts. Only 11 percent said that all in their sector pay taxes honestly.

A significant 72 percent report having been asked for a bribe in connection with taxes or licenses and 35 percent in connection to a government transaction. For both categories, only 5 percent reported the incident with the most common excuse being "nothing would happen anyway." *(Related story, B20)*

Bribery

Fifty-seven percent said that most, if not all, companies in their sector use bribes to get public sector contracts while 30 percent said bribes were used to clinch private sector deals.

"Most respondents place the bribery allotment for government contracts at 20 percent (of the project cost), and the bribery allotment for private sector contracts at 10 percent," SWS head Mahar Mangahas said in his report on the October 2002 to February 2003 survey.

Some 88 percent of the managers said that their company makes it a practice to give gifts, such as Christmas raffle prizes, to government agencies, with 23 percent giving at least P100,000 worth of gifts a year.

Fifty-four percent said their company gives additional donations in an election year, with 24 percent giving at least P100,000 and 8 percent giving at least P1 million worth.

From a list of government agencies, managers gave "very good" (over +50) net sincerity rating in fighting corruption to the Supreme Court, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the health and budget departments.

A net sincerity rating is the percentage of those who consider the agency sincere in fighting corruption minus the percentage of those who consider it insincere.

The education department, the barangay government, the Office of the President and the Sandiganbayan got good (+31 to +50) ratings. The Ombudsman, the Commission on Audit, the justice department and their city or municipal government got moderate (+11 to +30) ratings.

The agencies with mediocre (-11 to +11) ratings are the Presidential Commission on Good Government, the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission, the trial courts and the Senate. Poor (-11 to -30) ratings went to the Land Transportation Office, the House of Representatives and the environment department. The Philippine National Police stood out as the sole agency with a bad (-31 to -50) rating while the very bad (below -50) are the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Bureau of Customs.

The managers were split on the business prospects for next year. Twenty-nine percent see good or excellent prospects, 42 percent see fair, 29 percent see poor or very poor prospects.

The survey involved 500 managers from 214 companies randomly drawn from the 1,500 largest corporations and 286 from the small and medium enterprises. Top and mid-level managers were interviewed.

Most of the findings were similar to an earlier survey, the SWS said.

2 firms clinch Comelec deals worth P1.3B

By Blanche S. Rivera

A FORMER member of the Photokina-led consortium bagged the P1-billion validation project that would form the first phase of poll modernization.

Another consortium, the Philippine Multi-Media Systems Inc. (PMMSI), won the bidding for the P300 million electronic transmission project.

Commission on Elections chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. said yesterday he has signed the notices of award for French firm Sagem and PMMSI early this week.

Abalos said the technology offered by the two firms were recommended by the technical working group of the Comelec.

The winning bidder for the 2,500 automated machines for counting and canvassing has yet to be determined.

Abalos said that the Department of Science and Technology is still evaluating two firms who are vying for the P1.7-billion automation project.

"They (commissioners) have given me the authority to issue the notice of award upon the recommendation of the technical group," Abalos said.

But the Comelec chair added that the contract, which would be based on the notice of award, would be ratified by the en banc.

Sagem was one of two firms which had earlier requested the amendment of the initial rules for bidding issued by the Comelec, which stated that only Filipino majority-owned firms may participate in the bidding.

It used to be part of the consortium that won the award for the controversial P6.5-billion Voters Registration and Identification System (VRIS).

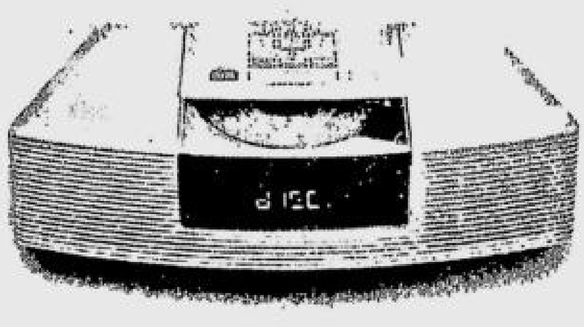
The deal for VRIS, whose technology is similar to what is needed for validation, was junked by the Supreme Court last year.

The Comelec would validate the voters' lists in areas where there are persistent reports of electoral fraud and cheating. Continuing registration has been suspended.

The data-capturing machines for validation would take and store digital photos, fingerprints and personal data of the voters.

The electronic transmission gadgets, on the other hand, would be interfaced with the counting machines for faster communication of the election results.

BOSE®
Better sound through research.
www.bose.com



Wave Radio / CD

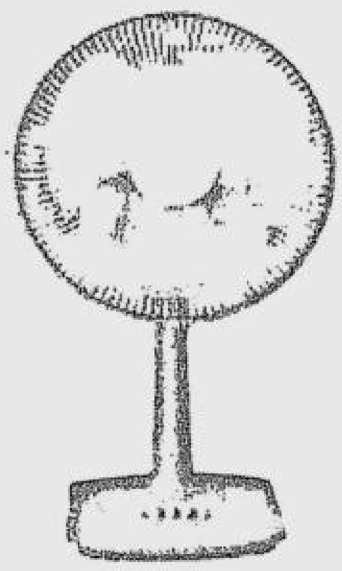
BOSE STORES
SM Megamall: Tel. No. 634-8484 to 85
SM City North Edsa: Tel. No. 926-80-34
Robinson's Place Ermita: Tel. No. 536-2668
Festival Supermall: Tel. No. 850-3638
Enzo Bldg.: (Jaguar Showroom) Tel. No. 897-8888
Power Plant Mall: Tel. No. 898-2048

email: customer_service@eleksis.com

Hear a demo, hear the difference.

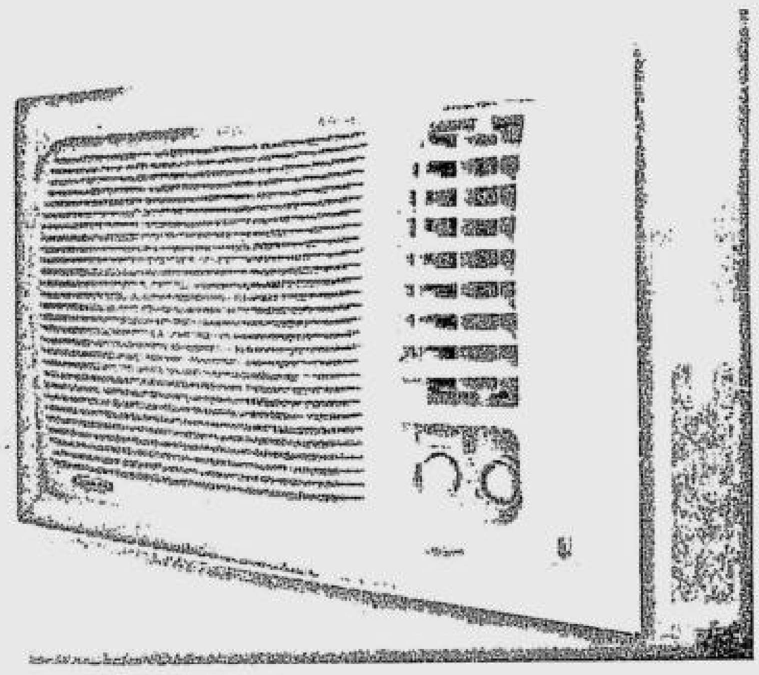
When you want to save:

With the high cost of energy, you could sacrifice your comfort just to save on electricity.



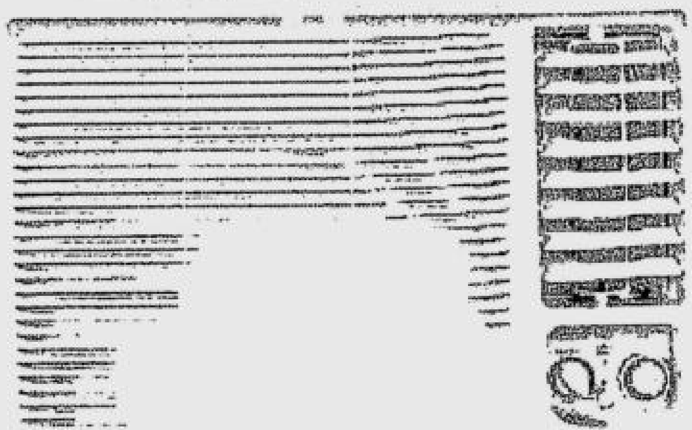
When you want to be comfortable:

The Condura EBX has a high Energy Efficiency ratio and the lowest operating wattage in its class. You get the cooling comfort you need and the low electric bills you want.

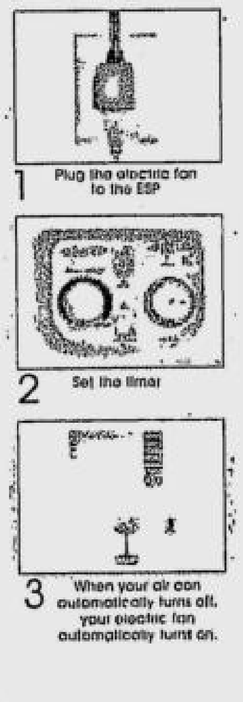


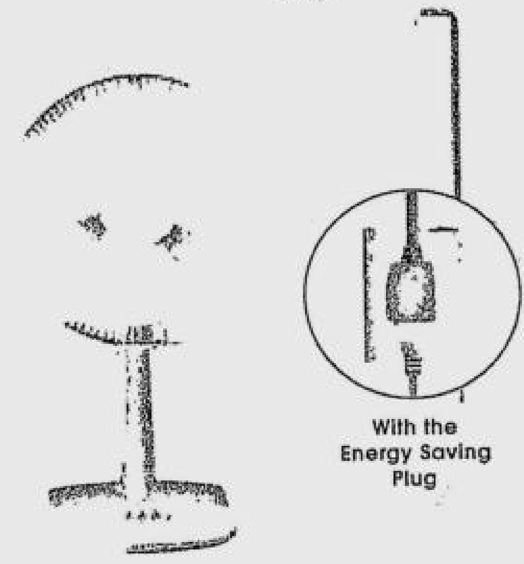
When you want to be comfortable while saving up to 40% on electrical consumption:

Now you can be cool and comfortable without having to worry about your electric bills. The Condura EBX with the exclusive Energy Saving Plug. Just plug in. And save.



Here s how:


1 Plug the electric fan to the ESP
2 Set the timer
3 When your air con automatically turns off, your electric fan automatically turns on.



CONCEPCION-CARRIER
AIR CONDITIONING

CONCEPCION-CARRIER CUSTOMER CARE

FASTxT
Txt mo. Service ko!
0917-8435555
0918-9175555

CONDURA
AN EVEN BETTER CHOICE

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

INQUIRER

Vol. 18 No. 117
ISSN 0116-2642

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **NILO B. PAUROM**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Desk Editor **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

Explosive

EDITORIAL

FOUR weeks after the bombing near the Davao airport that left 22 people dead and more than 130 others wounded, another bomb went off near the city's Sasa wharf Wednesday, killing 16 people and injuring at least 40 others. Among those killed in the second blast were an eight-month-old baby, a 6-year-old boy and a nun. The two shocking and cruel terrorist attacks in as many months seem to have shattered the city's claim to being an oasis of peace in the strife-torn corner of the country.

But while government officials were quick to point a finger at the Moro Islamic Liberation Front for the March 4 blast, they have been more careful and deliberate in assigning blame this time. Once burned, twice shy, perhaps. Three days after the first blast, the government filed charges of multiple murder against the top MILF leadership and more than 140 others. Among those charged were two relatives of the alleged bomber who turned out to be part of a big group of family members welcoming home an overseas Filipino worker. It now appears that the government had very little by way of hard evidence against those it had charged in court.

Maybe it helped cool down the hotheads, who are always ready to "solve" great crimes by rounding up the usual suspects instead of catching the real culprits, that the lines of communication to the MILF leadership had been reopened or that the process of restarting the peace talks has begun. Thus, the MILF leadership was able to assure the government quickly that it had nothing to do with the latest atrocity and even to offer help in investigating it.

Taking the MILF out of the picture hardly simplifies the problem. With no group coming forward to claim responsibility for the bombings, government investigators are left guessing as to their identity or identities. Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, who was named crisis manager after the March 4 bombing, earlier blamed that blast on what he called a special urban terrorist action group of the MILF, a charge that was denied by the separatist group. Now investigators seem inclined to believe that another group was behind the second bombing. Separate groups carrying out terrorist attacks independently may be more than what an already beleaguered Macapagal administration can handle.

And yet there's even greater urgency now to get to the bottom of this recent spate of bombings. Early yesterday morning, hooded men hurled bombs or grenades and shot up three mosques in Davao, wounding at least 14 people. The attacks, coming just hours after the Sasa wharf blast, bore unmistakable signs of a reprisal for the earlier bombing. Even Duterte, who has a reputation for taking extralegal measures against criminals, was alarmed over this fresh outbreak of violence with its religious undertones. "We don't need revenge," he said.

But first the bombings must be stopped and those responsible for the previous blasts must be brought to justice. Then people will not think of seeking revenge. The authorities have to do much more and do it fast before the situation spins out of control. Davao, which has a history of vigilantism against communist rebels and more recently drug pushers, may be headed for a much bloodier conflict, one that could turn it into another Beirut or Belfast of the recent past.

The real villain

FOREIGN COMMENT

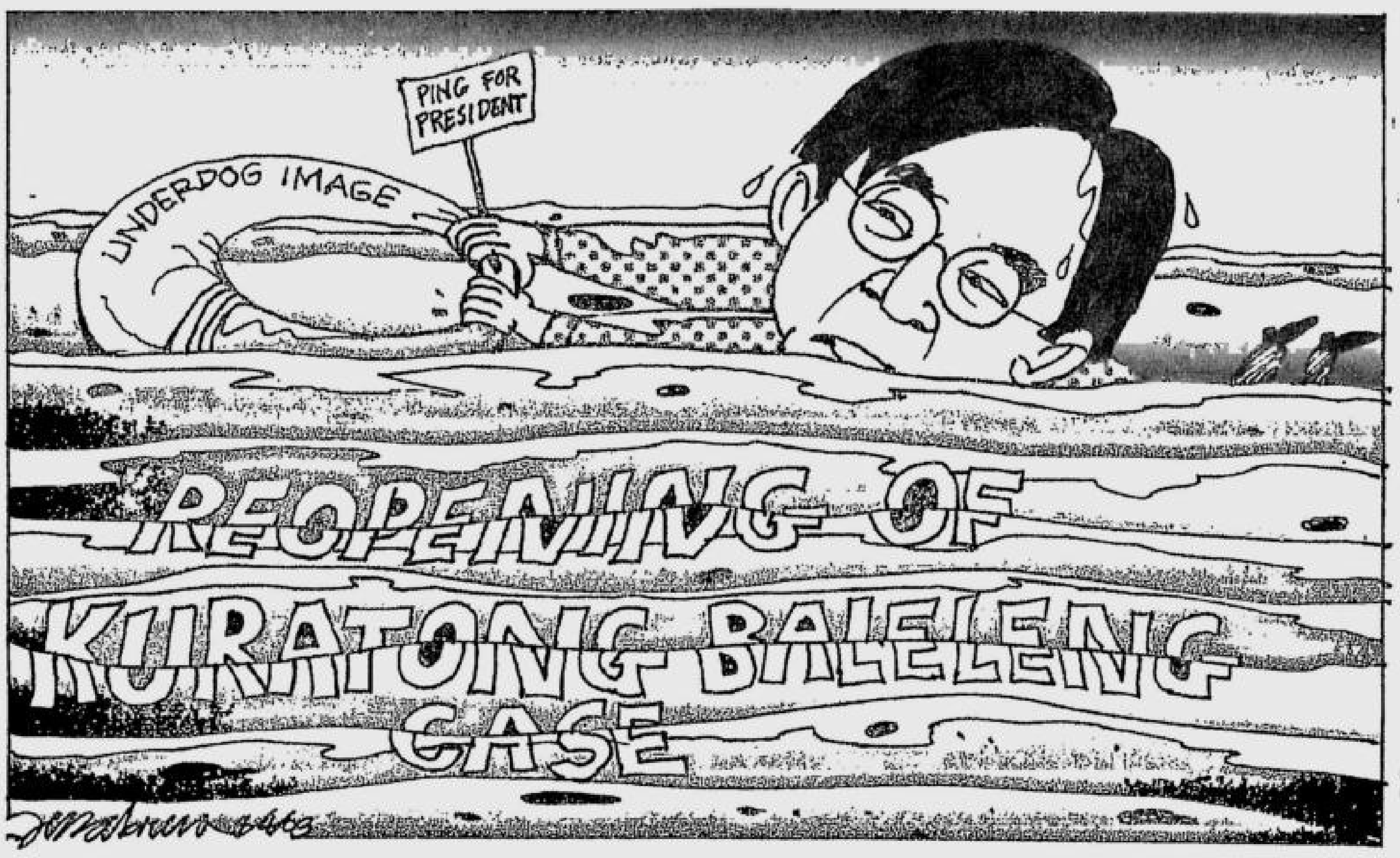
COLLATERAL damage" is military-speak for the unintended consequences of war, specifically, dead and wounded civilians. Unfortunately there is no way in war to avoid civilian carnage, no matter how careful the battle plan. Our precision-guided bombs, while extremely accurate, aren't infallible.

The coalition's accidentally inflicted civilian death toll, though, will pale compared to what the Iraqi regime causes on purpose. Iraqi soldiers are using mosques, day-care centers and neighborhoods for cover. They have commandeered human shields to protect themselves, marching them toward British troops, then firing from behind them before retreating, according to a British spokesperson. And if the Republican Guard resorts to fighting with chemical weapons, you'd better believe Iraq's civilians are on their own.

Coalition forces are doing everything possible to avoid civilian deaths, even drawing criticism in some quarters for putting soldiers at increased risk. Balancing risks to civilians and coalition forces is "a constant calculation," said Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair Gen. Richard Myers.

Yet it's a necessary one. It's important for Iraqi citizens and, indeed, the world, to understand once and for all who the real villain is in this war. That ought to be an easy calculation.

The Birmingham News (Birmingham, Alabama)


PING FOR PRESIDENT
UNDERDOG IMAGE
REOPENING OF KURATONG BALELENG CASE

Midsummer thoughts: The old waterhole is gone

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

IN MIDSUMMER, when the temperature soars and the sun seems to be too bright, people's fancies turn to beaches cooled by surf and sea breezes, to snoozing in a shady nook in the backyard with a cold glass of lemonade, to the old waterhole in the old hometown. A photograph in yesterday's INQUIRER of Japanese boating under banks of cherry blossoms led me to think about our family compound in Malabon.

It was like an island surrounded by fishponds. And leaning over the fishponds were big *kakawati* trees that, at about this time of the year, unfurled profuse pale-pink blossoms just like the cherry blossoms of Japan. As the blossoms matured, they dropped into the water and so you had a profusion of pink among the trees above the ponds, pink reflected in the water, and actual pink blossoms floating on it.

We could jump into the ponds anytime but they were too shallow to swim in, although our pet ducks used them as their private swimming hole. Our own old waterhole was nearby, the Catmon River, over which was a wooden bridge.

The river was not only our swimming hole, it was our playground. Living so close to a river, children in our neighborhood learned to swim almost as soon as they learned to walk. When the tide was up, the river echoed with laughter and shouts as almost all the children of the neighborhood swam and played there.

Along the banks of the river and ponds grew mangrove trees and the big *kalapinay* trees leaning over the water. We would climb up the branches and dive into the water. Or we would tie a rope to a stout branch and swing out above the water a la Tarzan and drop into the water. Or we would use the bridge as a diving platform.

When the tide started to go out, we would move over to the concrete water gates through which water passed in or out of the ponds, so that the pond water was always fresh. Forget to change the water even once and the bangus fingerlings die. The water was always deeper around these water gates.

We played tag, chasing one another among the branches and roots of the mangrove trees. We could run among the roots sticking out of the mud to support the trunks like buttresses and climb the branches like monkeys. We would go home with our bodies full of scratches from the branches but the salt water acted as an antiseptic and healed them almost immediately.

Among the roots of the mangroves, many crabs made their homes. You could see them sunning themselves on the roots or on the steps and sides of the water gates, but when you got near, they scurried into their holes. So we would pile into bancas with our slingshots and plenty of pebbles and glide along the mangroves and take potshots at the crabs. We missed most of the time but sometimes we made a direct hit and took unlucky crabs home for dinner.

During low tide, expert fishermen patrolled the banks with long steel poles and digging tools looking for holes of big crabs, the *alimango* which you buy in the wet market. It was easy to know if a crab was inside the hole: you could see its clawmarks in the mud at the entrance. The fisherman called *mandurukot* (in the city he would be mistaken for a pickpocket) then went to work.

With the long steel pole bent at right angles at the end, he poked into the hole to feel for the crab. Most of the time, the hole went this way and that, and a straight pole was blocked. So the *mandurukot* used his digging tools to make the hole bigger so he could manipulate his pole better.

Shrimps buried themselves in the mud along the edge of the mangrove growths. At low tide, if you have good eyesight, you could see their eyes sticking out of the mud and it was easy to catch them. If you could not, you groped in the mud and you could feel their bodies.

Kingfishers also made the mangroves their playground. You could see the blue, blue-green, and white birds with long red beaks perched on the branches, watching the water for fish. Now and then, one would dart into the water and return to its perch with a fish struggling in its beak. For these birds, we made traps.

We fashioned these traps out of bamboo, string and strips of rubber from the car's inner tubes. Through a tiny hole in the bamboo stick, a piece of string tied to the rubber strip was inserted, then the hole was plugged with a small stick of bamboo. The end of the string was draped over this horizontal stick like a noose. The pole was pointed so the bird could not perch on it. Instead, it was expected to perch on that horizontal stick. When it did, the stick fell from the bird's weight and the noose was sprung around its leg. The bird, later freed, became a pet.

Those were the good old days when the Malabon rivers were clean, where we could bathe and play and catch food anytime. Not anymore. Pollution has killed not only the rivers but also the fishponds they served and the livelihood of fishermen who depended on them. If you accidentally fall into the river now, you'd probably die of poisoning. The fishponds have been filled up with dirt and sold as residential lots. Our compound is no longer surrounded by fishponds and *kakawati* trees, but high adobe walls of neighboring lot owners.

The Catmon River and the Tenejeros-Tullahan River from which it branches is a perfect example of what happens to waterways if government officials, local and national, allow businessmen and squatters to do their thing and pollute the rivers. Greedy and irresponsible businessmen unloaded their effluents into the river and squatters made the river their own private toilets and garbage dump. And so we now have once pristine rivers as smelly, dirty and shameful open sewers.

Closer to home

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I GOT this letter more than a week ago, and remembered it the other day when I read about a couple of lawmakers, Sen. Manuel Villar and Rep. Apolinario Lozada, warning government about promising Filipinos jobs in postwar Iraq. The letter-writer did not particularly mind giving his name, but I am withholding it on the ground that he is more likely to be the object of retaliation by his government than that this government is likely to be the object of biological warfare by groups sympathetic to Iraq.

His letter goes:

"As a long-time Overseas Filipino Worker in Saudi Arabia, I wish to express my disgust at our government's stand on the US-led war against Iraq. I believe my sentiment is shared by the majority of OFWs here.

"The immorality and illegality of this war are well known to the more civilized peoples of the world. So I will only concentrate on two issues of importance to OFWs.

"First is the reckless support of the Philippine government for the war. President Macapagal-Arroyo's message of support and confirmation of the Philippines as a member of the 'coalition of the willing,' replayed several times by CNN and seen in Saudi Arabia, has only served to destroy whatever goodwill the Arab countries hold for our country. Already, our Saudi employers and friends are asking how our President can act so dumbly.

"If the situation in the Gulf worsens (we hope it will not) and leads to mob attacks by Arabs against foreign workers of countries that are members of the coalition, Filipinos will likely be one of the targets. When Arab countries also start to take action against the members of the coalition, or reduce jobs for them, the expulsion of Filipino workers will be a real possibility. And what will President Macapagal do with these 'modern-day heroes' who have kept our economy afloat all these years?

"Our only consolation is that the more educated Saudis know President Macapagal's decision does not reflect the real sentiment of the Filipino people nor of the OFWs.

"Second is the recent news of President Macapagal gleefully announcing the availability of about 45,000 jobs for Filipinos in postwar Iraq. How she came to this figure, I do not know. But it shows a callous President who cares nothing about trotting about an imagined economic advantage of the war for her country while ignoring the millions of Iraqis who are dying and the dire economic consequences of war to poor countries like ours.

"President Macapagal would be well-advised to keep her mouth shut on the subject to avoid further damage and embarrassment to the country."

Villar says we should not premise the hiring of Filipinos abroad on canine loyalty to America but on talent. "Contractors and employers will get skilled workers from any country, whether or not it supported the war." Lozada, on the other hand, says there is no assurance Filipinos will get priority in rebuilding Iraq. "Besides, there is no guarantee the United States will win the war."

Well, you go by history you'll know that the rewards for the loyal are not only extremely speculative, they are completely unwarranted. At least for countries like ours. This country fought for America over and beyond the call of duty during World War II, and all it got for its pains was to have rehabilitation funds tagged to making Americans equal to Filipino citizens in the Philippines. It was Japan and Germany—the enemies—that got rebuilt. This country may not forget Bataan and Corregidor, but America does, until it's time to pull them out of the attic and dust them off.

But Lozada and Villar miss the point. The point is not merely that it's foolish to count chickens before they are hatched, it is that it is foolish to do so while exposing the current hens to an impending plague. For those who do not like metaphors, that means that it is not only foolish to talk of future jobs in Iraq, it is that it is foolish to do so while courting expulsion for the OFWs currently working in the Middle East.

I don't know where GMA gets her breathtaking myopia. Surely Malacañang has access to more sources of information than CNN. Just surf through cable TV—which include German (DW) and French channels (TV 5) and various Asian and Arab channels—and though most of it is not in English, its images must tell you the real story about the war. It must also tell you about the fury of the world about that war, in the Middle East above all. Ironically, Iraq's most lethal weapon has turned out the pictures of its dead.

The fear that the war might engulf the region has become real. Donald Rumsfeld has already accused Syria and Iran of coming to the aid of Baghdad, which the two countries have angrily condemned and seen as signs of impending aggression against them. Arab governments that have been silent about the war, hoping to appease their own publics while maintaining good relations with Washington, are under immense pressure to reflect public sentiment.

You have a situation like that, and you think crowing about future jobs for Filipinos in a "liberated Iraq" is not going to grate on Arab ears? You can only hope we are too insignificant to be noticed or that "the more educated Arabs" realize GMA is not OFW and ne'er the twain shall meet. Manny Villar is wrong there too. The way emotions are running high in the Gulf today, skills are not bound to be the determining factor in the hiring and firing of OFWs over the next few years. When I got the e-mail above from our OFW in Saudi, the killing of several Iraqi women and children at an American checkpoint hadn't yet happened, and pictures of it hadn't yet come out on TV and the newspapers.

My letter-writer from the Middle East has every reason to fume. The way his President is carrying on, getting fired may be the least of their worries.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@info.com.ph

The right to a decent start in life

COMMENTARY

Dr. Shigeru Omi

ASIA'S children are in the greatest danger in the very places they should be safest—at home, at school and in their local community. Each year, more than a million infants in the region die before reaching their fifth birthday, nearly always because of illnesses related to problems in the environment they live in. It is a chilling scenario, and one that is completely unacceptable.

Wherever people live in poverty, it is the children who suffer the most. In their growing years, they experience "windows of susceptibility," when their fragile systems are open to attack from germs, worms and disease-bearing insects. Millions of youngsters contract acute respiratory illnesses in their very own homes, from breathing in the fumes from open fires used for cooking and heating or from tobacco smoke. These dangers are aggravated by such factors as conflicts, natural and man-made disasters, sexual abuse and social and gender inequities.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has dedicated this year's World Health Day, on April 7, to the cause of Healthy Environments for Children. WHO believes that every child has the right to live, learn and play in safety and good health. Is this goal achievable? Sadly, the answer is not yet—not until the link between poverty and disease is snapped.

In times of sickness, families without assets do not even attempt to seek treatment. Those who have some possessions will sell them to raise money or may use them as security to borrow money at high rates of interest. The consequences for household incomes are devastating, tipping families into an irreversible downward spiral of greater poverty, more health problems and destitution. On all health indicators, the poor fare worse than the better-off. Children living in absolute poverty are five times more likely than others to die before the age of 5. Potentially deadly infections, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and diarrheal diseases all disproportionately affect the poor. Malnutrition is a constant threat.

At the same time, the delivery of health care is often profoundly anti-poor. The majority of health personnel are found in urban areas, while most of the poor live in rural communities. Financial resources favor hospital-based curative care, whereas the poor need accessible and affordable primary care. Funding is usually directed toward personal medical care, although the poor benefit most from broad public-health measures such as clean water and sanitation.

More than 100 million children in the Western Pacific—a region that encompasses 37 countries and areas—do not have access to clean water. The contaminated water they drink or in which their food is cooked is putting their lives at risk through the effects of diarrhea and other intestinal problems. How much more effective—and compassionate—it would be to provide clean water rather than try to deal with the consequences of its absence.

If things continue this way, the future will be an even more dangerous place for Asia's children. More than 7 million people in the Western Pacific suffer from health problems caused by indoor pollution. By 2010, that figure will have risen to over 12 million. At home much of the time, children will be the most affected.

Each day, up to 50,000 young Asians start smoking. At this rate, possibly a quarter of all young men now smoking, will eventually die from tobacco use.

Garbage is another peril. An average urban area in the Western Pacific region produces half a million tons of solid waste each year. By 2010, there will be nearly twice that amount. When not disposed of safely, garbage harbors mosquitoes—bringing with them the threat of dengue fever.

For governments, the costs of greater health problems will be monumental. Health services will be overwhelmed. Sustainable economic development will be jeopardized.

But none of this is inevitable. Environment-related disease can be controlled, even in the poorest countries. What is needed is a holistic approach, where delivering healthy environments involves much more than the efforts of just the health authorities. Other government departments, such as economic planning, housing, energy and water, must also play their part, along with community leaders, parents and teachers. So, too, must international bodies.

The WHO is helping to make this happen. Together with other United Nations bodies, civil-society groups, governments and various other agencies, it recently formed the Healthy Environments for Children Alliance. This multi-institutional grouping, with expertise in a wide range of health-oriented activities, will bring synergistic solutions to problems that cannot be resolved with one single remedy. It will also advocate globally for increased funds to promote healthy environments for children, and help ensure the right tools and the best possible knowledge are available at the local level.

It is early days still for the Healthy Environments for Children Alliance, but, with the right will, it could mean genuine hope for tomorrow's children. The alternatives do not bear thinking about.

Dr. Shigeru Omi is regional director of the Western Pacific region of the World Health Organization.

Speaking out

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AMONG THE "CASUALTIES" of "Gulf War II" were two journalists working for American news organizations.

Controversial TV host Geraldo Rivera, who in recent years has sought to reinvent himself as a gung-ho reporter, was asked to leave his "embedded" post with American forces after he allegedly indicated his location, along with the troops he was traveling with.

More significantly, Peter Arnett, a prize-winning journalist who shot to prominence when he continued to report from Baghdad for CNN during the first Gulf War, was fired by NBC television for granting an interview to Iraqi state television. Because Arnett criticized American military strategy, Americans criticized Arnett, who is from New Zealand, for allegedly giving "aid and comfort" to the enemy.

Which just goes to show how polarized opinions and loyalties become in times of war. "You are either for us or against us," is the prevailing sentiment on both sides, leaving no ground for conscientious objection or objective analysis.

Michael Moore, who recently won an Oscar for his documentary on America's gun culture in "Bowling for Columbine," knows full well what speaking out against the invasion of Iraq means. Speaking out about "living in fictitious times" when he went up the stage to receive his statuette, Moore was loudly booed and generally caused an uproar, eventually "escorted into the trunk of his limo," as host Steve Martin joked.

Here's an article, originally published in the Los Angeles Times, by Moore in which he explains why he said what he said, and why he thought, as the title of his piece goes, "Starting a Ruckus was the Right Thing to Do." Excerpts follow:

* * *

A WORD of advice to future Oscar winners: Don't begin Oscar day by going to church.

...My problem with the Catholic Mass is that sometimes I find my mind wandering after I hear something the priest says, and I start thinking all these crazy thoughts like how it is wrong to kill people and that you are not allowed to use violence upon another human being unless it is in true self-defense.

I had not planned on winning an Academy Award for "Bowling for Columbine," and so I had no speech prepared. I'm not much of a speech-preparer anyway. Besides, I had already received awards in the days leading up to the Oscars and used the same acceptance remarks...

The majority of Americans, according to polls, want stronger environmental laws, support Roe vs. Wade and did not want to go into this war without the backing of the United Nations. That is where the country is at. It's liberal, it's for peace and it is only tacitly in support of its leader because that is what you are supposed to do when you are at war and you want your kids to come back from Iraq alive. In the commercial break before the "best documentary" Oscar was to be announced, I suddenly thought that maybe this community of film people was also part of the American majority and just might have voted for my film, which, in part, takes on the Bush administration for manipulating the public with fear so it can conduct its acts of aggression against the Third World. I leaned over to my fellow nominees and told them that, should I win, I was going to say something about President George W. Bush and the war, and would they like to join me up on the stage? They all agreed.

* * *

MOMENTS later, Diane Lane opened the envelope and announced the winner:

"Bowling for Columbine." The entire main floor rose to its feet for a standing ovation. I was immeasurably moved and humbled as I motioned for the other nominees to join my wife (the film's producer) and me up on the stage.

I then said what I had been saying all week at those other awards ceremonies. I guess a few other people had heard me say those things too because before I had finished my first sentence about the fictitious president, a couple of men (some reported it was "stagehands" just to the left of me) near a microphone started some loud yelling. Then a group in the upper balcony joined in. What was so confusing to me, as I continued my remarks, was that I could hear this noise but, looking out on the main floor, I didn't see a single person booing. But then the majority in the balcony—who were in support of my remarks—started booing the booers.

It all turned into one humongous cacophony of yells. And all I'm thinking is: Hey, I put on a tux for this?

Was it appropriate? To me, the inappropriate thing would have been to say nothing at all or to thank my agent, my lawyer and the designer who dressed me—Sears Roebuck. I made a movie about the American desire to use violence both at home and around the world. My remarks were in keeping with exactly what my film was about.

* * *

AND, as I walked up to the stage, I was still thinking about the lessons that morning at Mass. About how silence, when you observe wrongs being committed, is the same as committing those wrongs yourself. And so I followed my conscience and my heart.

On the way back home to Flint, Mich., the day after the Oscars, two flight attendants told me how they had gotten stuck overnight in Flint with no flight—and wound up earning only $30 for the day because they are paid by the hour.

They said they were telling me this in the hope that I would tell others. Because they, and the millions like them, have no voice... They are the American majority who are being asked to send their sons and daughters over to Iraq to possibly die so Bush's buddies can have the oil.

Who will speak for them if I don't? That's what I try to do, every day of my life, and March 23—though it was one of the greatest days of my life and an honor I will long cherish—was no different.

Except I made the mistake of beginning it in a church.

What's new about Balagtas?

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

LAST Wednesday there were three celebrations to commemorate the 215th birthday of Balagtas. Manila Mayor Lito Atienza started with a floral offering in Pandacan where guests, who were diligent enough to be awake by seven in the morning, were pleasantly surprised by the face-lift of the Balagtas plaza. The Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino headed by Chair Buenobra, awarded literary and other awards to people who continue efforts toward propagating the national language. Finally, the Samahang Balagtas, headed by Foreign Secretary Blas Ople, met at the Manila Hotel for the first (annual?) Balagtas lecture delivered by Adrian Cristobal. Of course, people in the audience kept asking in whispers why the Panayam Balagtas was delivered in English by a writer in English. I had no trouble with that since I kept hearing certain stanzas from "Florante at Laura" repeated like mantras the whole day; these stanzas drilled painfully into memory by school gave me goose bumps. I remember the terror of graded recitation when I had nothing memorized from our national poet. Cristobal promised to provide a new way of looking at Balagtas. I was not disappointed.

It struck me that many of the lines drilled into young minds by schoolteachers have something to do with the upbringing of children, and rereading these today made me realize that Balagtas had a rather negative attitude. Stanzas 197 and 198 read:

"Pag-ibig anaki'y nakilala di dapat palakhin ang bata sa saya, at sa katuwaa'y kapag namihasa, kung lumaki'y walang hihinting ginhawa."

"Sapagkat ang mundo'y bayan ng hinagpis mamaya'y sukat tibayan ang dibdib lumaki sa tuwa'y walang pagtitiis anong ilalaban sa dahas ng sakit!"

I'm glad my parents didn't read Balagtas or use him as a guide to child-rearing because we would have been deprived of the joys of childhood. Perhaps Balagtas is quoted out of context, one will have to read the whole work to know, and that I promise to do during the Holy Week. Cristobal in his lecture "Wrestling with Balagtas" said:

"...I am but a wanderer in the dark and fearful forest of Balagtas' epic, having learned about it in my high school days, with but a single verse lodged in memory. It runs like this, as some of you might recall: *Ang laki sa layaw, karaniwa'y hubad, walang karsonsilyo't labas ang bayag.* I will not patronize a great poet by translating his lines into English. Let those who can't read Tagalog go to E. San Juan's English translation and there swim in the abstruse explications that sap the juice out of Balagtas' substance..."

That was enough to keep me awake the rest of the lecture and made me go through my own memory for names long learned but seldom used: Juana Tiambeng, Baltazar Narvaez, Maria Asuncion Rivera, Celia, etc. Reading up on Balagtas made me wonder why everything we seem to know about his life can only be traced back to a 1916 study by Epifanio de los Santos, Balagtas y su Florante. And even then the man memorialized by Edsa drew much of his information from Herminigildo Cruz's "Kung sino ang Kumatha ng Florante Kasaysayan ng Buhay ni Francisco Baltazar at Pag-uulat nang Kanyang Karunungan" (Manila Libreria Manila Filatelica 1906). Hasn't any fresh primary research been done on Balagtas, if only to trace the documentation and verify the information of Cruz?

For example, Cruz reproduced the baptismal record that says that Francisco Balagtas was baptized on April 30, 1788 and that his parents were Juan Balagtas and Juana Cruz. How come we celebrate on April 2 when the document does not provide information on the age of the child brought in for baptism? We are also told that Balagtas had a brother, Felipe, and two sisters Concha and Nicolasa. Last Wednesday I hoped to interview a descendant of these people but no one was available to answer why the poet also goes under the surnames Baltazar or Narvaez Baltazar.

The marriage certificate, also reproduced by Cruz states that: Francisco (now) Baltazar, son of Juan Baltazar and Juana de la Cruz, married Juana Tiambeng, daughter of the Chinese *mestizo* couple Juan Tiambeng and Dominga Rodriguez in Orion, Bataan on July 22, 1842. The explanation is that Balagtas was dropped when the Claveria Decree of 1849 giving Filipinos surnames, was implemented. All we know is that after two decades of marriage, our prolific poet produced 11 children.

We have more obscure information. Before his marriage he courted two women from Tondo named Bianang and Lucena. That he moved to Pandacan, a district then known for artists and musicians, sometime in 1835 or 1836, and lived in the house of Pedro Sulit. He is said to have worn *camisa de canton crudo* or *piña* embroidered in Hagonoy. He also preferred silk pants made in Baliuag known as "*tatapisin*," whatever that means. It is suggested that he was unjustly imprisoned in 1838 because he was a rival for the hand of Celia, the woman he hid under the initials "M.A.R." We don't know how long he was imprisoned, we don't know what crime he allegedly committed but it seems that contrary to popular belief, he did not write "Florante at Laura" in prison at this time.

So many old questions with no new answers forthcoming. If Balagtas 2003 had any impact on me at all, it is to accept that we need new research instead of repeating century-old data.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

'Cooked books' and a hunted man

COMMENTARY

Sylvia L. Mayuga

"I CANNOT reconcile the Jess Tibayan I know with his companies' books," says SEC Chair Lilia Bautista, empathizing with an alleged scammer's rise from the bottom to the top of the heap—much like hers, she says—with faith in the Divine and sheer hard work creating their own luck.

But next she frowns, "He had 92 companies. How can you believe that?" Auditing the Tibayan group of companies at the man's own request through a good part of 2002, the Securities and Exchange Commission found many non-operational offices in expensive spaces, says Compliance and Enforcement director Tomas Syquia. With many affidavits of non-operation submitted, the SEC began to wonder where the money for high interest rates to investors was coming from if Tibayan was not just another pyramid artist. Twelve of those 92 books they opened were "cooked," says the SEC. "They solicited billions in investments and were going through elaborate measures not to declare them."

On such findings, a Cease and Desist Order was served on the Tibayan Group of Investment Companies on Jan. 29. "The bottom line is money," says Celia Sandejas, legal counsel of the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) under the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, about the accompanying freeze of bank accounts identified with scams and alleged scammers. "We're not too sure they had bad intentions but most of the time, Ponzi *nga*. We freeze the accounts anyway because in the past, starting with G. Cosmos, we were always making *habol*. Now we try to be pro-active.'

Billions of pesos and millions of dollars of money suddenly locked in vaults, sealed like the lips of the AMLC on the exact amounts frozen, has been uniformly followed by the disappearance of alleged Ponzis a.k.a. pyramiders. What was the investing public to think but that they had fled with ill-gotten wealth in hand? Panic and hysteria have led an army of emotions shared by government officials despite themselves. "It's blood money," Syquia says darkly, adding that individual investors' tales of need and desperation have been "emotionally draining" on him, too.

Thousands have rushed to the SEC, the National Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice, the police and the courts to file complaints. There, a long and winding road opened, fraught with more strain and expense to get back mostly hard-earned savings, in many cases for life and death urgencies. Several dangers lay in the legal machinery itself. In clogged dockets with an underpaid bureaucracy vulnerable to bribery and foot-dragging, civil cases would take four to six years to be awarded damages, 8 to 10 years for criminal cases if they go all the way to the Supreme Court. Then there are lawyers' fees, the largest expense, with enough investors to spawn a special breed of legal vulture circling the bodies under fallen pyramids.

Those are not the only perils. Bit by bit it emerges that another danger both to investors and alleged scammers comes from law enforcers themselves. In and around the NBI, ironically under the justice umbrella, are traces of criminal elements working with well-connected investors bent on extralegal "collection of what's due" or independently grabbing booty as CDO enforcers, shrinking a huge kitty belonging to many. Other than Ma. Teresa Santos' safe busted open by policemen-investors "getting our money back," we have yet to hear of PNP robbery. The attempt of Police Gen. Romeo Maganto to arrest Rose Baladjay within Senate premises was however not a flattering portrait of what the PNP elements are capable of.

The state of Philippine law and order is what made the ongoing Jaworski hearings at the Senate a lifeline, with millions of potential votes for the one national figure doggedly taking the cudgels to recover investor money. That a good part of this money, large enough to surprise the senators, is perhaps not lost but frozen is a first ray of light coming through clouds of panic, possible misjudgment in the SEC, shadowy NBI moves, and investors' fears of finding little or nothing, after SEC penalties and lawyers' fees, in the end.

But Sen. Robert Jaworski's commanding view widens by the day. Coming to light, for instance, is that pyramids varied in extent, method and working environment, based on their CEOs' style. At the last hearing on March 28, things began moving faster as well with the repayment plan presented by Ma. Teresa Santos and Ervin Mateo's promise to submit his own soon, lawyers around his prison cell.

The first appearance of two Tibayan officials also beamed the spotlight on TGIC's own repayment plan to investors whose total number cannot be independently verified, its papers hidden with officers in hiding like the boss. The moment ripens for the reappearance of Jesus V. Tibayan himself. With the right questions and answers, SEC Chair Bautista stands a chance of finally making up her mind about him.

Meanwhile, here's a thought. Among Tibayan's investors are crack auditors, some of them even, surprise! SEC examiners. Why can't Bautista allow an independent "people power" team from their ranks into those 80 other books an understaffed SEC had not examined before a CDO was issued, perhaps even reviewing those they did? It would set a great example of transparency begetting more transparency and the gradual return of good will between enforcer and enforced upon, to the relief of thousands of victimized investors caught between them.

And, if the Malaysian Medical Practitioners Berhad (MMPB) is for real and at the eve of a voluntary limited partnership with TGIC, for which Tibayan's main condition is repayment of investors with its new capital infusion, a win-win scenario could be unfolding. MMPB managing director Parimalan says, "Pity Mr. Tibayan wasn't ready when I first offered him a merger two years ago. He could have avoided all this trouble. I like his view of development. He has vision."

What if he's right?

Sylvia L. Mayuga is a veteran freelance writer on historical and cultural issues.

* * *

E-mail: slmayuga@yahoo.com

THEY SAID

Hothead

"He can have a special arrangement with the devil for all I care, but that's not the point. He showed the character of a hothead, *pikon*."

—Rep. Neptali Gonzales II on Sen. Panfilo Lacson's tirade over a comment that the senator could not win over businessman Danding Cojuangco in a presidential contest

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Women in war

WHILE the face of the US military is more "gender inclusive," the reality is as mixed and in some cases, contrived as ever.

Take President Bush's recent pep talk to the Central Command at its headquarters in Florida, for example. I couldn't help but notice that four of the seven soldiers seated directly behind and to the side of the president—in full TV camera view at all times—were women.

Whether this "positioning" was by accident or design can only be speculated upon, but somehow it looked like a set-up for public consumption, in the United States especially, where women's "role" in the military has always been a bone of contention, especially in combat situations.

In a missile battery, for example, just two days earlier in Iraq, a female officer in charge pushed the wrong button, sending a Patriot missile slamming into a British warplane by accident, killing both occupants.

Another news story the day before reported the heroics of a female pilot who landed her damaged aircraft safely without navigational equipment. A feat, I am told, that would cause "bladder control" problems for even the baddest male pilots.

Unfortunately for the disgraced missile battery officer, the skill and courage of her "sister," the pilot, won't be enough to quiet the military naysayers looking for "proof" that the hand that "rocks the cradle" should not be launching missiles, flying combat aircraft, or doing anything that puts them in harm's way. ("Bulls—t" is what my mother would say, and my mother was never wrong.)

—ELLIOTT ANDERSON,
Pan-Ay Clarin,
Misamis Occidental

Will Maynilad restore R. Magsaysay Boulevard?

THE MAYNILAD Water Co. excavated the stretch of Vicente G. Cruz Street from Firmeza Street to R. Magsaysay Boulevard for their pipe-laying project from early 2000 to late 2002.

For almost two years the stretch of Vicente G. Cruz Street has been rendered impassable to vehicles. Now that the roadworks have stopped, the street still hasn't been restored to its previous condition before Maynilad dug it up. But when one calls up Maynilad's hotline, they insist that the project has been completed and that the road has been restored.

Vicente G. Cruz Street was a well-paved concrete road before Maynilad started the pipe-laying project. Not anymore, particularly the stretch nearing R. Magsaysay Boulevard. The rainy season is just a couple of months away. Please, will someone look into this matter?

—DAVID CHAN HWAN,
57-B Judge Juan Luna St.,
San Francisco del Monte, QC

Thanks for KitKat

MY family wishes to extend our great appreciation and sincerest thanks to the INQUIRER and the people there for the support they have extended to us by featuring us in the INQUIRER. That served as the instrument of God in touching the hearts of readers who willingly offered financial/moral support to us in dealing with great uncertainties concerning Kitkat's health. Their prayers and comforting words somehow eased the fear within us, knowing that many cared for her.

We just can't ignore the generosity of our benefactors for Kitkat's non-surgical operation, specifically the Burke UST Foundation for Cardiology with its chair, Edouardo Mialhe, who had been very supportive all the way to Kitkat (she being the first recipient of the said foundation), and to PCSO Chair Livia S. de Leon for her immediate action and assistance to us.

Also to Dr. Jose Jonas del Rosario of St. Luke's Medical Center for his untiring effort, patience and guidance; to kind-hearted friends, relatives and colleagues and to those who don't want to be known but did help us a lot, especially Sir Teddy and Ma'am Letty.

To our provincial governor, Jose Ma. R. Zubiri, Rep. Miguel F. Zubiri, Mayor Florencio T. Flores Jr. and Mayor Jose M. Galario Jr., city mayors of Malaybalay and Valencia, respectively, for their support.

We would also like to acknowledge the Chinese General Hospital and Medical Center for offering assistance to us, as well as the Philippine Heart Foundation.

Above all, we want to thank the INQUIRER because all of these things wouldn't be realized without its support to us. Again, thanks a lot and more power to all of you there.

—TESSIE L. PAANO,
c/o 501 Burke Bldg cor. Burke and
Escolta, Manila

The US-Iraq war

Voices on INQ7.net

DESPITE the "intelligence," despite the pressure on military commanders, Washington's promised proof of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction has yet to materialize.—**mateo**

* * *

You don't count the chicks until all the eggs are hatched. Wait for the war mopping-up operations to finish. How do you find something that's probably stashed in areas still controlled by the Iraqis?—**Sad, Damned_Hussein**

* * *

Don't expect these bunch of couch potato warmongers to be in the thick of battle. They prefer to be on the sideline like the cheerleaders of the Dallas Cowboys with their pompoms. Easy for them to be brave when they're not in harm's way. They're cheering this war like the Superbowl, which I find totally horrific! Easy also for others to cheer especially when they don't have a family member in Iraq right now. I saw on the news footage hours ago my friend sitting on his tank...Jesus! I hope his wife and kids saw the news footage and saw that he was okay. Every time I check the lists of CNN for updates I always say a prayer before looking at the site. I don't want to see the name of six people I know on that list.

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld during his morning briefing with the press, was ducking questions and started finger-pointing. He's now saying he's not the planner of the war. What a sudden shift!—**leslie**

* * *

American "unilaterism." That's what's bothersome about America. The creation of an International Criminal Court would have been a good idea, but not to the Americans. Other despicable records include: bad environmental degradation policies, arms sales, continued use of land mines—the United Nations be damned.

American citizens are obliged to voice their displeasure over foreign and domestic policies. This is not "hating" America. This is part of the freedoms men die for. People see what's good with this country, but they also see things which are unpleasant to them. We cannot go about our lives like lemmings. You have your ideas, we have ours.

"This is it," as one US Marine general put it in expressing the order that the final ground push on Baghdad has already begun.

But grim as it may be, grimmer still is the reality that Saddam Hussein or his subordinates may also finally give the order to use biochemical or even nuclear weapons against the oncoming US and British forces once the so-called "red line" is crossed.

The world now waits with bated breath for the next turn of events in this war.—**Rolly S.**

* * *

Do US citizens feel safer now that Bush attacked Iraq unilaterally? Bush claimed as justification for this war, that by invading Iraq, terrorism will be put on check (at least), right?

The best recruiter of Islamic fundamentalists turned out to be Bush, himself! And later on, the Americans will surely see an increase rather than a decrease, in attacks by fanatics due to Bush's actions!

Weapons of mass destruction? No longer the issue right now! Lately, the main objective is now focused on regime change through political assassination (oops! I mean decapitation operation... or was it target of opportunity?).—**piping dilat**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

5 Year Warranty
- Compressor
- Evaporator
- Condenser
- Adjoining Tubes
- Connectors

LG

PRICE CUT PROMO

Promo Period: February 15-April 30, 2003

ROOM AIR CONDITIONER		LG	Brand C	Brand S
P9,995 LESS 2,000 P7,995	0.65 HP	•5,900KJ/Hr •10.2 EER •Gold Fin	•5,500KJ/Hr •10.3 EER •Green Fin •P8,900	•5,275KJ/Hr •10 EER •Bare Aluminum •P8,995
P11,995 LESS 2,500 P9,495	0.9 HP	•8,140KJ/Hr •11 EER •4way Swing •Gold Fin •W/ Timer	•7,400KJ/Hr •11.5 EER •Green Fin •P12,575	•7,875KJ/Hr •10.5 EER •Bare Aluminum •No Timer •P10,995
NEW 1 HP MODEL P9,995	1 HP	•9,726KJ/Hr •10.2 EER •W/ Timer	•9,500KJ/Hr •10.5 EER •W/ Timer •P15,975	•9,400KJ/Hr •9.4 EER •W/Timer •P11,995

LESS P1,000 ON ALL WINDOW TYPE(1HP/1.5HP/2.0HP/2.5)HP MODELS

REFRIGERATOR	5.5Cu.Ft. 156 Liters	LG	Brand N	Brand S
P8,895 LESS 700 P8,195	Metallic Color	•GROSS:6Cu.Ft. NET:5.5Cu.Ft. •Extra Large Freezer •Magic Crisper	•GROSS:5Cu.Ft. NET:4.4Cu.Ft. •P8,899	•GROSS:5.5Cu.Ft. NET:5Cu.Ft. •P8,798
P8,495 LESS 500 P7,995	Skin Beige, Green & White Color			

	6.5Cu.Ft. 185 Liters	LG	Brand N	Brand S
P9,495 LESS 800 P8,695	Metallic Color	•GROSS:7Cu.Ft. NET:6.5Cu.Ft. •Extra Large Freezer •Magic Crisper	•GROSS:6.5Cu.Ft. NET:6Cu.Ft. •P9,399	•GROSS:6.5Cu.Ft. NET:6Cu.Ft. •P8,998
P9,095 LESS 600 P8,495	Skin Beige, Green & White Color			

ONLY P44,995 FOR NEW 20Cu.Ft. (566 Liters) GRB207EC MODEL-SIDE BY SIDE

WASHING MACHINE		LG	Brand S	Brand N
GMA/LUZON: P2,995 LESS 500 P2,495	5.0Kg.	•Pulsator: 15"diameter •Zinc Coated •Ribomatic •490x490x930	•Pulsator: 14"diameter •Metal •485x470x850 •P2,798	• Pulsator: 15"diameter •Metal •485x470x850 •P2,799
VISAYAS/MINDANAO: P3,195 LESS 500 P2,695				

Bigger capacities!

We maximize your money because with LG, you get a bigger capacity ref at lesser cost than higher priced brands with even lesser capacities! How's that for savings!

Better features!

Bigger and better. From a washing machine equipped with features to help clean clothes better, to air conditioners with the highest Energy Efficiency Ratios (EER) for lowest power consumption. At our prices, LG gives you value for your money.

Bigger savings!

Don't miss your chance to own an LG Washing Machine, Airconditioner or Refrigerator at reduced prices from February to April 30,2003 only.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0337 Series of 2003.

Available at all major appliance stores nationwide.

LG Collins Electronics Manila No. 15 F. Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City Tel. Nos. 641-4181 up to 85. Fax 640-0460. Customer Information Center: 640-2525 e-mail: www.lge.com.ph

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Iraqis, not US, must run Iraq—Blair

LONDON—Iraq must be governed by Iraqis as soon as the US-led war to overthrow President Saddam Hussein is over, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said on Wednesday.

"Iraq in the end should not be run by the Americans, should not be run by the British, should not be run by any outside force or power," he told MPs in his weekly question period in the House of Commons.

Blair went on to say that Britain had "absolutely no plans" to invade Syria or Iran, while adding that it would be unacceptable for either of those countries to help Iraq fight coalition forces.

The declarations came after US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Friday accused Damascus of supplying Iraq with weapons and Iran of backing Iraqi rebels.

"We maintain relations with both those countries to make sure those things do not happen," Blair said.

"It's important, particularly in relation to Iran, to recognize we are in constant contact with them in order to make sure that this situation is not exacerbated in any way."

During a radio interview with the BBC on Wednesday, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw was keen to stress London's cooperation with Tehran: "Iran is a completely different country and situation from Iraq. Iran is an emerging democracy and there would be no case whatsoever for taking any kind of action."

"We have had good cooperation from the Iranian government (. . .) and the Iranians have more reason to know of the terror imposed by Saddam Hussein, not just on his own people, but on other peoples in the region, than almost any other country including Kuwait.

"So far as Syria is concerned (. . .) we have worked hard to try to improve relations," he added.

Straw was traveling Wednesday to Berlin, then on to Nato headquarters in Brussels, for talks focusing on post-war Iraq and its reconstruction.

In parliament, Blair reiterated Britain's determination to see that any interim post-war administration in Iraq is endorsed by the United Nations, amid concern that Washington intends to put Americans in charge in Baghdad.

Post-war Iraq should be run "by Iraqi people on basis of a broadly representative government that protects human rights and that is committed to peace and stability in the (Gulf) region," he said.

"I am quite sure that is what the vast majority of the Iraqi people want to see," he added.

Blair promised MPs that, apart from his Wednesday question periods, he would be making a major statement in the Commons on Iraq before it rises for a two-week Easter recess on April 14.

With a decisive battle for Baghdad imminent, Blair said British forces had performed "absolutely magnificiently" in the war that began March 20.

"We can take immense pride in them," he said. *AFP*

SARS scary, but not as bad as flu, data show

By Maggie Fox

WASHINGTON—It jumped from ducks to farmers in the densely populated southern provinces of China, spreading via jet to the whole world within a year and killing half a million people. SARS? No—just ordinary influenza.

As world health officials scramble to identify and contain the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, they are drawing constant parallels with flu, a much more familiar—and so far deadlier—foe.

SARS has killed an estimated 78 people and made 2,151 ill, the World Health Organization said in its latest update.

In contrast, influenza kills anywhere between 250,000 and 500,000 people every year around the world. In the United States, with a vaccine and modern medical care widely available, flu kills at least 36,000 people a year.

New strains regularly pop up, with varying degrees of lethality.

The "Spanish flu" pandemic of 1918 killed between 40 million and 50 million worldwide, most of them young, healthy adults. The "Asian flu" and "Hong Kong flu" pandemics of 1956-57 and 1967-68 killed a combined 4.5 million people.

The SARS outbreak is tiny in comparison, said Dr. Richard Duma, head of infectious diseases at the Halifax Medical Center in Daytona, Florida, and a member of the board of the National Foundation for Infectious Disease. "I think it is frightening a lot of people but I don't think it will produce the mortality that influenza will produce," Duma said.

In fact, when SARS cases were first reported in Guangdong early this year, experts assumed it was another outbreak of a deadly strain of influenza known as H5N1.

Bird flu

In 1997. Hong Kong authorities slaughtered more than a million chickens and ducks to stem the epidemic of "bird flu" that came to be known by its genetic nickname of H5N1. It killed six people and infected 18.

Richard Webby, an influenza virus expert at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, noted that three members of a Hong Kong family who visited Fujian Province in southern China became infected with H5N1 early this year and two of them died. They were the first known human cases since 1997.

US and WHO experts knew of a larger outbreak of respiratory disease in China's Guangdong province at the time and assumed it was more H5N1, which alarmed them.

The new outbreak has since been identified as SARS, which may be caused by a different virus, known as a coronavirus.

But the parallels with influenza are obvious. Both are respiratory diseases, both are highly infectious and both, apparently, have jumped from animals to people.

And both were born in China. Influenza begins as an infection of birds, one that does not make its avian hosts ill.

A slight mutation allows it to move into people, sometimes via pigs as an intermediate host.

Once a person recovers from influenza, he or she has immunity to that strain. But every year a new strain jumps from the flocks of chickens, ducks and geese raised in China, forcing vaccine makers to come up with a new formula.

Something similar may have happened with SARS, said Mike Osterholm, an infectious disease expert at the University of Minnesota who has for years been warning about such emerging infections.

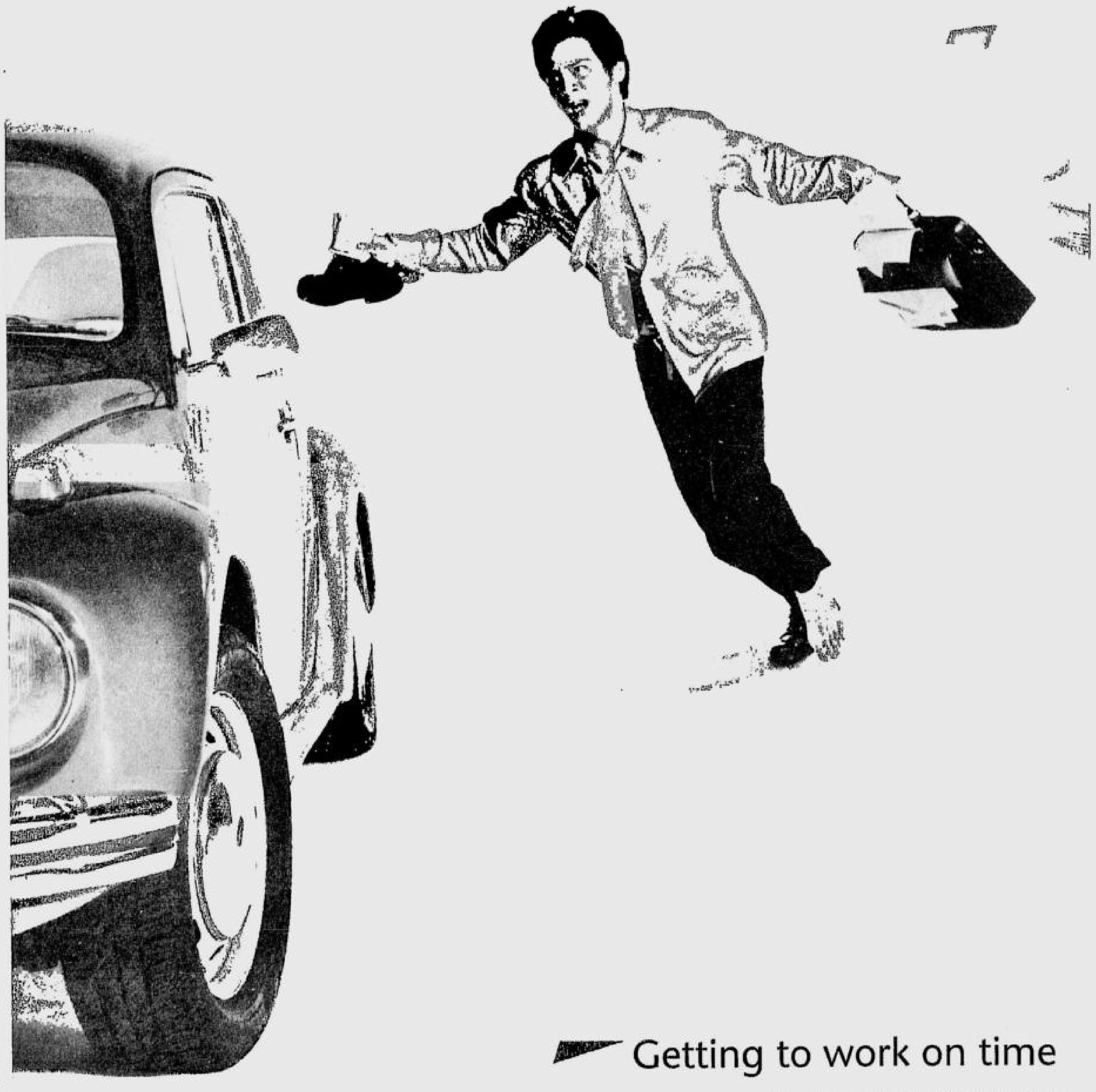
"You have the world's largest population in China. You have the world's largest population of pigs in China, the world's largest population of aquatic birds. You have close contacts and you have a lot of different species where these agents are floating around, and you are going to see a jump from animals to people," Osterholm said in a telephone interview.

Only SARS looks worse than ordinary flu. It kills between 3.5 percent and 4 percent of known victims—a rate higher than the 1918 influenza epidemic, the worst epidemic in recorded history, in which 3 percent of patients died.

In an average year, influenza kills fewer than 1 percent of patients, experts said.

"Four percent mortality—that is a lot of people if you multiply it by a few million," Webby said. *Reuters*

What Drives You



Getting to work on time

Who hasn't overslept? But it won't change that 8 a.m. meeting. That's why Vortex High Performance Fuel gives you extra pick up when you need to put your foot down.

Vortex

What Drives You CALTEX

China, Russia eye checks on US power

PARIS—Having failed to block war in Iraq, China and Russia are retooling strategies to attenuate US dominance and ensure that Washington cannot override their interests with impunity in the future, experts say.

Both states remain committed to closer relations with the United States, yet both were also deeply dismayed by Washington's handling of the crisis and are less inclined to pursue US ties at high cost to other national interests.

For China, this may translate into a more muscular assertion of its role as the dominant Asia-Pacific power while Russia can be expected to reiterate its geostrategic value as a nuclear power straddling several ancient civilizations.

"China is above all keeping its eye on the consequences of Iraq for the Asia region," said Francois Godement, director of the Asia center at the Institut Francais des Relations Internationales (IFRI), a Paris think tank.

"China would like to consolidate relations with the United States, but is also very pragmatic and determined to defend what it regards as its own interests," Godement explained.

This was evident the day hostilities broke out in Iraq: while predictably condemning the US-led war, Beijing also seized the occasion to fire off warnings to North Korea, Japan and Taiwan on how it expected them to behave.

A similar reaction occurred in Russia: after an expected blast of vitriol directed at the United States, Moscow said it was delaying ratification of a nuclear disarmament treaty and soon thereafter test-fired a strategic missile.

Moscow said the timing of the missile test was unrelated to the Iraq crisis. But many see in these and other developments nascent and none-too-subtle policy recalibrations to remind Washington that other big players remain on the stage.

"For the United States, the Iraq crisis has been purely and simply about Iraq," said Steven Miller, director of the international security program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in the United States.

"But for Russia, China and much of the world the crisis was at least as much about the United States, about what kind of role the United States would play in the world and whether the United States would play by the rules.

"Contending with American power is, I think they believe, more important than dealing with Iraq," Miller said.

For China and Russia, as well as India, France, Germany and other powerful states, this contending with American power is producing new, "outside the box" foreign policy thinking that may influence the world for generations to come.

Writing Sunday in The New York Times, columnist Thomas Friedman posited for example that a transformed Nato, where Russia gradually supplants France, would emerge as the guarantor of a western-oriented "World of Order" in years ahead.

Experts say Moscow's hard line with Washington on Iraq is predicated by core interest in an orderly world, an interest that could be met by a Nato-like alliance provided Russia had a seat at any top table within it.

"The delay in ratification of the treaty was not so much to send a message to Washington as for internal reasons," said Viktor Baranovksy, deputy director of Russia's Institute of World Economy and International Relations (Imemo).

"Russia has an interest in a more orderly world. The current mechanisms for bringing this about are few and not very effective. If in the future Nato becomes that mechanism, that could be very good for Russia," Baranovksy said.

Though measurably more cautious in its official rhetoric, China is also on the lookout for new alliances or institutional mechanisms that would level the playing field more with the United States in managing global affairs. *AFP*

AUCKLAND University of Technology researchers Dr. Steve O'Shea and Cat Bolstad with the Colossal Squid at the Te Papa research laboratory in Wellington, April 2. The squid, which was caught in the Ross Sea last week, is thought to be the largest intact specimen to have been found. AP

Rare Colossal Squid caught

WELLINGTON, New Zealand—Fishermen in Antarctic waters have made an extremely rare catch—a Colossal Squid with eyes as big as dinner plates and razor-sharp hooks on its tentacles.

The 150-kg, 5-meter, immature female "Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni" was caught recently on the surface of the Ross Sea, Auckland University of Technology research fellow Steve O'Shea said Thursday.

Only one other Colossal Squid specimen is known to have been caught before, although beaks of others have been found in the stomachs of sperm whales that prey on them.

In turn, the squid is a formidable hunter of large marine creatures such as Patagonian toothfish that can grow to be more two meters long.

"All we know is that it can move through the water... to a depth of 2,000 meters and it is an extremely active and extremely aggressive killer," O'Shea told National Radio after examining the squid at a Wellington museum, he added.

It's much larger and differs from the more commonly caught giant squid by "having enormous hooks arming the tentacles and the arms. They rip you to bits. It can move these things in any direction it wants," he said.

It probably occurs as far north as the South Island of New Zealand and down to the Ross Sea in Antarctica.

The creature makes up three-quarters of the diet of large sperm whales, which suggested there are large numbers of them in Antarctic and sun-Antarctic waters, he added. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Resurgent Taliban

SPINBOLDAK, Afghanistan—Two dozen US special forces troops and hundreds of their Afghan allies swooped in on a border village to drive out resurgent Taliban fighters in southern Afghanistan. Under fierce attack, the Taliban fled into nearby mountains where they were pummeled by US aircraft. Wednesday's fighting was the latest assault on rebel forces, who are regrouping after a US coalition drove them from power 18 months ago. At least eight Afghan soldiers and as many Taliban fighters were wounded. Six Taliban were captured and arrested, but another 60 were entrenched in the rugged Tor Ghar mountain range. *AP*

DR Congo peace pact

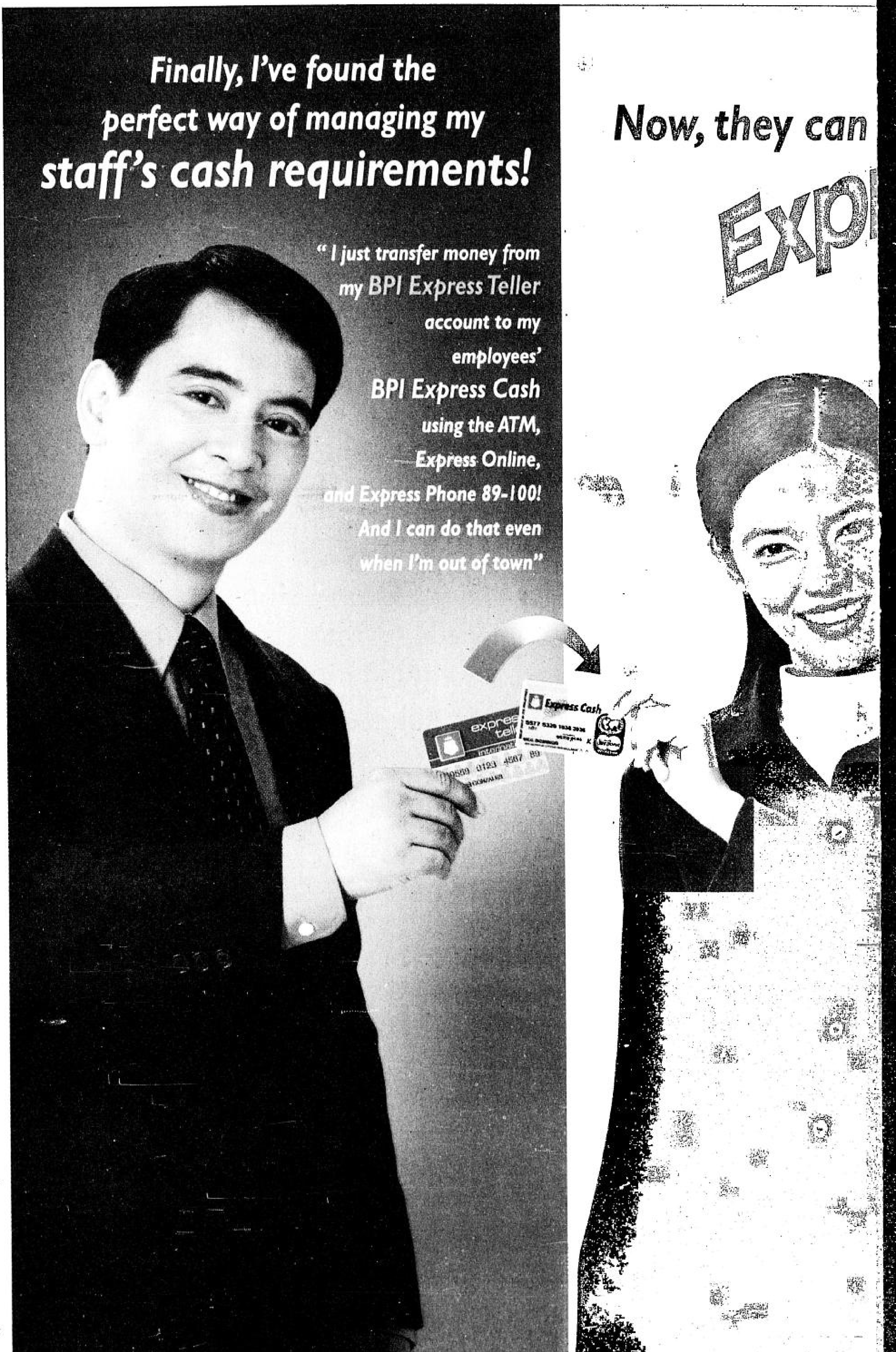
SUN CITY, South Africa—Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) delegates signed a historic "final act" Wednesday to end more than four years of brutal warfare and set up a government of national unity. The signing in the luxury casino resort of Sun City in northwestern South Africa was witnessed by South African President Thabo Mbeki and the heads of state of Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The agreements will see President Joseph Kabila remain as head of state during a transition period of two years, extendable to three, leading to the first democratic elections since those on independence from Belgium in 1960. *AFP*

Israel raids kill 6

GAZA CITY— Israel stepped up its operations early Thursday in Palestinian territories, killing six people in a helicopter and tank raid in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, as the relative lull that accompanied the start of the war in Iraq further dissolves. The Israeli army expelled 1,000 Palestinian men of fighting age from their homes in a West Bank refugee camp and told them not to return until they had finished their hunt for militants. *AFP*

Deadly Indonesia floods

JAKARTA—At least 45 people have been killed after torrential rainstorms caused floods and mudslides on the mountainous eastern Indonesian island of Flores, officials said Thursday. As of Thursday a total of 30 people had died in the central district of Ende, district chief Paulinus Domi said from Ende town. *AFP*



Finally, I've found the perfect way of managing my staff's cash requirements!
" I just transfer money from my BPI Express Teller account to my employees' BPI Express Cash using the ATM, Express Online, and Express Phone 89-100! And I can do that even when I'm out of town"
Now, they can
Exp
Express Cash

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

Moro rebs fleeing Army torch 50 homes

By Edwin O. Fernandez
PDI Mindanao Bureau

COTABATO CITY—At least 50 houses were razed by suspected Moro Islamic Liberation rebels in Datu Piang, Maguindanao on Wednesday.

Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga, 6th Infantry Division chief, said the attackers also burned the houses of a provincial official and former Datu Piang Mayor Genuine Kamaong.

"This is how desperate the rebels are, they are losing in the battle, they are also losing mass support," Senga told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

"They are crazy," Sainudin Kasan, a variety store owner in Barangay Crossing Salbo, said of the attackers who earlier ordered them to leave their homes. The residents were told that they had to leave because of an impending attack by guerrillas.

"They just ordered us to leave, we don't know why they burned our houses when we have done nothing against them," he added. Kasan lost a store made of semi-concrete materials after gunmen poured kerosene and gasoline before setting it on fire.

Eid Kabalu, speaking for the MILF, admitted that the MILF committed the arson to divert the Army's attention away from the boundary of Datu Piang and Datu Shariff Aguak, both in Maguindanao, where guerrillas are under attack by government soldiers.

"We consider the fire victims as among the collateral damages in this war," Kabalu said, adding that the burning of the villagers' houses was triggered by Army attacks on MILF areas.

The houses were located beside the highway and about 50 meters away from the main headquarters of the 37th Infantry Battalion.

Senga said MILF guerillas do not only target Army bases and checkpoints but are now also attacking civilians and non-combatants.

"The MILF is proclaiming they are fighting for the right of Bangsamoro people yet they are slowly killing them by burning the only wealth and (pieces of) property that these people have," Senga said in another radio interview.

The Army identified the leaders of the gang that torched the houses in Sitio Panang, Barangay Salbo as Commanders Uztadz Abdulwahid Malil and Franco, both field officials of the MILF operating in the Talayan-Datu Piang areas.

The government and the MILF have expressed willingness to resume peace negotiations but clashes between them continue.

Malaysia has agreed to become a middle man for the talks, but continuing encounters between the Moro guerrillas and government troopers are making the talks increasingly difficult.

Express Cash It!

"My assistant can buy stuff like office supplies and refreshments for office meetings, fast!"

"My operations manager can keep in touch with our sales people all the time since she can reload her Globe Handyphone anytime."

"My Sales Manager can use his Express Cash to entertain our clients in MasterCard Electronic establishments. He can also gas up anytime he's running empty."

"Best of all, I can now track staff expenses through a mini statement from the ATM. This makes liquidation of cash advances easier and more convenient!"

The BPI Express Cash card also comes with the following features:

- Get freebies, rewards and discounts in Ayala Center Discount Plus stores.
- Pay for parking at Glorietta 4.
- No minimum balances to worry about, no service fees! Requires only an initial load of ₱500.

For more details, call 89-100
(press "0" to speak to a phonebanker)
or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com.

There's a thousand reasons to Express Cash It!

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to ₱100,000.

MILITARY officials inspect several firearms seized from communist rebels during encounters in Sta. Ana, Pampanga.

TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON

Encounter kills after it's over

ANGAT, Bulacan—Three farmers were killed while two others, including an eight-year-old girl, were seriously hurt after a rifle grenade they were playing with exploded on Tuesday night in Barangay Pulong Yantok here.

Supt. Tomas de Armas, Angat police chief, said the rifle grenade was left in the village after the March 29 encounter between government troops and New People's Army rebels.

De Armas said one of the victims saw the unexploded rifle grenade and kept it.

He identified those killed as Joe Lamonera, 50; Victor dela Cruz, 52; and Mario Nicolas, 50. They died instantly due to the impact of the explosion and shrapnel wounds.

Flordeliza, Dela Cruz's wife, and their daughter Jennifer, 8, were wounded and were taken to the Bulacan Provincial Hospital in Malolos City.

De Armas said the victims found the rifle grenade in their farm and Dela Cruz decided to take it home. Later that day, the victims had a drinking spree at Dela Cruz's house and agreed to inspect and play with their find.

Nicolas held the rifle grenade and shook it but it suddenly exploded.

Flordeliza said her husband kept the rifle grenade as a "souvenir" from the bloody encounter in their village. She said her husband had no intention to play with the explosive but Nicolas was persistent.

De Armas advised residents in Barangay Pulong Yantok and its nearby villages not to play with explosives or firearms found in their villages. He asked the residents to report the find to the police. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Dagupan to make new Guinness bid

DAGUPAN CITY—For the second time this May, this city will vie for the Guinness Book of Records' longest barbecue and street party, a record it aimed for, but failed to make, last year.

"We are better prepared this time for the attempt to break the Guinness Record, with a bigger budget and with more groups volunteering to make it a success," Mayor Benjamin Lim said.

Last year, the city failed to host what it said would be the biggest barbecue and street party during its annual Bangus Festival.

"We have learned our lessons from that first attempt and a lesson learned was not to cram many activities in one day," Lim said.

During last year's celebration, the street dancing called Gilon!gilon! (bangus harvest) was held at the AB Fernandez Street just hours before the barbecue party was to take place, giving workers little time to prepare the grills along the same road.

The same street was the site of several platforms where bands performed for the street party, and people who watched the shows blocked the grill area. *Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Cop sued for escape of suspect in journalist's slay

PAGADIAN CITY—The wife of slain journalist Edgar Damalerio has filed charges against the former police chief of Zamboanga del Sur for the escape of the alleged gunman, a policeman under his protective custody.

Several residents on Monday reported seeing the alleged gunman, PO1 Guillermo Wapile, riding a motorcycle driven by an unidentified person armed with a handgun roaming the downtown area here despite the presence of policemen.

Damalerio's wife, Gemma, filed charges against Senior Supt. Pedrito Bactad Reyes, former police chief of Zamboanga del Sur, before the Office of the Deputy Ombudsman-military in Quezon City.

Mrs. Damalerio accused Reyes of grave misconduct, gross negligence and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service.

The case was filed following Wapile's escape on Jan. 27, two days before a local court issued a warrant for his arrest for the murder of Damalerio, a radio commentator of radio station dxKP and managing editor of the Zamboanga Scribe weekly newspaper.

At the time of his escape, Wapile was under the protective custody of Reyes.

A week after Wapile's escape, Police Director General Hermogenes Ebdane sacked Reyes from his post.

Mrs. Damalerio in her complaint sent to Deputy Ombudsman Orlando Casimiro accused Reyes of allowing Wapile to escape from his custody.

Reyes is reportedly due to retire this year. But if found guilty, he would not be able to receive benefits and pension.

Reyes had denied allegations that he allowed Wapile to escape. But he failed to explain how the suspect escaped. *Hernan P. dela Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Radio attack linked to politics

BUTUAN CITY—The National Bureau of Investigation here said politics could be behind the burning of the dxRM-Radyo Natin station's equipment and the failed assassination of its manager in Tandag, Surigao del Sur.

Lawyer Reynaldo Esmeralda, assistant director of the NBI in the Caraga Region, said his men have already identified the perpetrators and were preparing to make arrests.

"We have already identified them and their possible political affiliations," he told the INQUIRER.

On March 14, three unidentified armed men ransacked Radyo Natin's station in downtown Tandag and set ablaze its equipment and transmitter.

It happened almost a month after station manager Arvin Malasa survived an assassin's bullet while on his way home. Malasa suffered six gunshot wounds in different parts of the body.

The Manila Broadcasting Corp., owner of Radyo Natin, has yet to restore its operations.

NBI special agent Gabriel Falcon said Malasa told him he criticized Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay the day he was shot.

"We are still digging deeper over the incident," Falcon said.

Falcon said no group other than prominent political figures and communist rebels in Surigao del Sur has the capacity to stage such an attack.

Falcon said he would get Pichay's side on the incident.

In Surigao City last year, Manny Kong, commentator of the Catholic-run radio station dxSN, also escaped death after two gunmen fired at him. *Franklin M. Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Masbate to host 10th rodeo

TOURISM Secretary Richard Gordon will open the national rodeo in Masbate City on April 7 by leading a parade of horse riders in the rodeo arena in the city.

The rodeo will run until April 11. It has been held for the past 10 years in the province.

The provincial government has donated a one-hectare permanent rodeo arena.

The rodeo is under the supervision of the Rodeo Masbateno Inc., a group of ranchers and businessmen.

The participating teams include Del Monte, Impasugong, Malaybalay City, Cotabato provincial government, Negros Oriental government and Bohol stock farm.

Just a few of the reasons you'll like flying with us.

ORIGIN: MANILA

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
CEBU	5J - 557	Daily	DC9	0130	0240	P2,899	P5,798	P2,199*	P4,398*
	5J - 559	Daily	DC9	0500	0610			P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 561	Mon	DC9	0700	0810				
	5J - 561**	Tu-Sun	B757	0700	0810	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 563	Daily	DC9	0900	1010	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 565	Daily	DC9	1100	1210				
	5J - 567	Daily	DC9	1300	1410				
	5J - 577	W/Th/Sa/Su	B757	1325	1435				
	5J - 577**	W/Th/Sa/Su	B757	1325	1435	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 569	Daily	B757	1500	1610	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 569**	Daily	B757	1500	1610	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 571	Daily	DC9	1700	1810	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
DAVAO	5J - 961	Daily	B757	0500	0640	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 961**	Daily	B757	0500	0640	-	-	P3,667	P7,334
	5J - 963	Daily	B757	1020	1200	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 963**	Daily	B757	1020	1200	-	-	P3,667	P7,334
	5J - 965	Daily	DC9	1320	1500	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,470
	5J - 967	Daily	DC9	1540	1720				
CAGAYAN de ORO	5J - 381	Daily	DC9	0510	0635	P3,645	P7,290	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 383	Daily	DC9	0930	1055				
	5J - 385	Daily	DC9	1300	1425				
TACLOBAN	5J - 651	Daily	DC9	0610	0720	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 655	Daily	DC9	1210	1320				
	5J - 657	Daily	DC9	1410	1520				
ILOILO	5J - 451	Daily	DC9	0520	0620	P2,779	P5,558	P2,449	P4,898
	5J - 453	Daily	DC9	0620	0720				
	5J - 455	Daily	DC9	0955	1055				
	5J - 459	Daily	DC9	1520	1620				
BACOLOD	5J - 473	Daily	DC9	0510	0610	P2,779	P5,558	P2,449	P4,898
	5J - 475	Daily	DC9	1000	1100				
	5J - 477	Daily	DC9	1330	1430				
	5J - 479	Daily	DC9	1650	1750				
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 851	Daily	DC9	0520	0650	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
ROXAS	5J - 373	Daily	DC9	0530	0630	P2,539	P5,078	P2,199	P4,398
DUMAGUETE	5J - 627	Daily	DC9	1240	1350	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
KALIBO	5J - 339	Daily	DC9	0950	1040	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 343	Daily	DC9	1330	1420				
BUTUAN	5J - 787	Daily	DC9	0900	1025	P3,645	P7,290	P3,239	P6,478
PUERTO PRINCESA	5J - 637	Daily	DC9	0600	0710	P3,329	P6,658	P2,569*	P5,138*

* Promotional Value Fare ** Cebu Class

ORIGIN: CEBU

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 556	M/Th/F/Su	B757	0300	0410	P2,899	P5,798	P2,199*	P4,398*
	5J - 556**	M/Th/F/Su	B757	0300	0410	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 558	Daily	DC9	0400	0510	P2,899	P5,798	P2,199*	P4,398*
	5J - 560	Daily	DC9	0700	0810			P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 562	Mon	DC9	0900	1010				
	5J - 562**	Tu-Sun	B757	0900	1010	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 564	Daily	DC9	1100	1210	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 566	Daily	DC9	1300	1410				
	5J - 568	Daily	DC9	1500	1610				
	5J - 570	Daily	B757	1700	1810				
	5J - 570**	Daily	B757	1700	1810	-	-	P2,899	P5,798
	5J - 572	Daily	DC9	1900	2010	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
DAVAO	5J - 593	Daily	DC9	0815	0905	P2,589	P5,178	P2,249	P4,498
	5J - 597	Daily	DC9	1450	1540				
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 431	M/W/F/Sat	DC9	0905	1000	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638
ILOILO	5J - 164	Daily	DC9	1710	1745	P2,099	P4,198	P1,759	P3,518
BACOLOD	5J - 126	Daily	DC9	0810	0840	P1,879	P3,758	P1,539	P3,078
BUTUAN	5J - 223	M/W/Sat	DC9	1115	1150	P1,839	P3,678	P1,299*	P2,598*
PUERTO PRINCESA	5J - 227^	Tu/F/Sun	DC9	1115	1225	P2,899	P5,798	P2,199*	P4,398*

* Promotional Value Fare ** Cebu Class ^ Flight effective on April 11

ORIGIN: DAVAO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 962	Daily	B757	0740	0920	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 962**	Daily	B757	0740	0920	-	-	P3,667	P7,334
	5J - 964	Daily	B757	1300	1440	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 964**	Daily	B757	1300	1440	-	-	P3,667	P7,334
	5J - 966	Daily	DC9	1620	1800	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 968	Daily	DC9	1800	1940				
CEBU	5J - 594	Daily	DC9	0945	1035	P2,589	P5,178	P2,249	P4,498
	5J - 598	Daily	DC9	1540	1630				
ILOILO –via Cebu	5J - 598/164	Daily	DC9	1540	1745	P3,645	P7,290	P3,195	P6,390
ZAMBOANGA	5J - 393	Tu/Th/Sun	DC9	0910	1010	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638

ORIGIN: DUMAGUETE

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 628	Daily	DC9	1430	1540	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138

THROUGH FARE FLIGHTS VIA CEBU

DESTINATION	NORMAL		VALUE	
	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
PUERTO PRINCESA - BACOLOD	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
PUERTO PRINCESA - ILOILO	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
PUERTO PRINCESA - BUTUAN	P3,649	P7,298	P3,239	P6,478
PUERTO PRINCESA - DAVAO	P3,649	P7,298	P3,239	P6,478
PUERTO PRINCESA - ZAMBOANGA	P3,649	P7,298	P3,239	P6,478
BUTUAN - BACOLOD	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638
BUTUAN - ILOILO	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638
BUTUAN - DAVAO	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
BUTUAN - ZAMBOANGA	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138

* Above through fares shall apply provided a stopover in Cebu in not more than 48 hours
For stopovers beyond 48 hours sum of fares per leg shall apply

ORIGIN: BACOLOD

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 474	Daily	DC9	0920	1020	P2,779	P5,558	P2,449	P4,898
	5J - 476	Daily	DC9	1150	1250				
	5J - 478	Daily	DC9	1510	1610				
	5J - 480	Daily	DC9	1840	1940				
CEBU	5J - 125	Daily	DC9	0700	0730	P1,879	P3,758	P1,539	P3,078

ORIGIN: BUTUAN

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 788	Daily	DC9	1115	1240	P3,645	P7,290	P3,239	P6,478
CEBU	5J - 224	M/W/Sat	DC9	1235	1315	P1,839	P3,678	P1,299*	P2,598*

* Promotional Value Fare

ORIGIN: ILOILO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 454	Daily	DC9	0800	0900	P2,779	P5,558	P2,449	P4,898
	5J - 456	Daily	DC9	1135	1235				
	5J - 460	Daily	DC9	1700	1800				
	5J - 462	Daily	DC9	1830	1930				
CEBU	5J - 161	Daily	DC9	0700	0735	P2,099	P4,198	P1,759	P3,518
DAVAO –via Cebu	5J - 161/593	Daily	DC9	0700	0905	P3,645	P7,290	P3,195	P6,390

ORIGIN: TACLOBAN

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 652	Daily	DC9	0800	0910	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 656	Daily	DC9	1400	1510				
	5J - 658	Daily	DC9	1600	1710				

ORIGIN: ZAMBOANGA

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 852	Daily	DC9	1050	1220	P3,667	P7,334	P3,239	P6,478
CEBU	5J - 432	M/W/F/Sat	DC9	0730	0825	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638
DAVAO	5J - 394	Tu/Th/Sun	DC9	0730	0830	P2,649	P5,298	P2,319	P4,638

ORIGIN: ROXAS

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 374	Daily	DC9	0710	0810	P2,539	P5,078	P2,199	P4,398

ORIGIN: CAGAYAN DE ORO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 382	Daily	DC9	0715	0840	P3,645	P7,290	P3,239	P6,478
	5J - 384	Daily	DC9	1135	1300				
	5J - 386	Daily	DC9	1505	1630				

ORIGIN: KALIBO

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 340	Daily	DC9	1120	1210	P2,899	P5,798	P2,569	P5,138
	5J - 344	Daily	DC9	1500	1550				

ORIGIN: PUERTO PRINCESA

DESTINATION	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD	ETA	NORMAL		VALUE	
						ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP	ONE-WAY	ROUNDTRIP
MANILA	5J - 638	Daily	DC9	0750	0900	P3,329	P6,658	P2,569*	P5,138*
CEBU	5J - 228^	Tu/F/Sun	DC9	1305	1415	P2,899	P5,798	P2,199*	P4,398*

* Promotional Value Fare ^Flight effective April 11

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

FROM	- TO	FLT NO.	FREQ.	ACFT	ETD*	ETA*
MANILA	- HONGKONG	5J - 110	Daily	B757	0700	0900
		5J - 118	Daily	B757	1640	1840
HONG KONG	- MANILA	5J - 111	Daily	B757	1000	1200
		5J - 119	Daily	B757	[illegible]	2140
MANILA	- SEOUL	5J - 194	Mon	B757	0820	1320
		5J - 1944	Fri	B757	1340	1840
CEBU	- SEOUL	5J - 128	Th/Sun	B757	1535	2115
		5J - 1288	We/Sat	B757	1535	2115
SEOUL	- MANILA	5J - 195	Mon	B757	1430	1730
		5J - 1955	Fri	B757	1955	2250
SEOUL	- CEBU	5J - 129	Th/Sun	B757	2225	0155
		5J - 1299	We/Sat	B757	2225	0155

Local Time

NOTES:

- All tickets are REFUNDABLE, REROUTABLE and UPGRADABLE to valid higher fare types. All issued tickets are NON-TRANSFERRABLE.
- Insurance surcharge of P250 per sector is applicable to all fare types.
- Child's fare and other regular discounts are applicable to Normal Fares only.
- All fares are subject to government approval and are exclusive of government tax.
- All fares and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.
- Subject to seat availability, child and infant paying the applicable fares may be accommodated on the Cebu Class provided that the adult passenger is on the same class. Unaccompanied minors and holders of other discounted tickets are not eligible for Cebu Class accommodation
- MNL/PPS 5J-637 & PPS/MNL 5J-638 have Promotional Value Fares of P2,569 (one-way) & P5,138 (roundtrip) valid until April 11.
- CEB/PPS 5J-228 & PPS/CEB 5J-227 have Promotional Value Fares of P2,199 (one-way) & P4,398 (roundtrip) valid until April 30.

For more information, call (02) 636-4938
or the Sales Agent nearest you.
www.cebupacificair.com

CEBU PACIFIC
You above all.
OnTime • GreatValue • Warm&CaringService

Passengers with SARS symptoms monitored

By Jolene R. Bulambot
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Officials of the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance here are closely monitoring close to 20 passengers who manifested symptoms of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) when they arrived in Cebu two weeks ago from Hong Kong, Singapore and Taipei.

Dr. Manuel Bahandi, head of the quarantine division at the Mactan Cebu International Airport (MCIA), declined to give the identities of the passengers but gave assurances that he was in close contact with them.

He told the INQUIRER that they were still monitoring the conditions of these passengers to determine if they still experience the same symptoms since their arrival.

Bahandi, however, said there was no cause for alarm because none of the passengers was in serious condition.

Healthy

Nida Puentespina, head nurse of the quarantine division, Wednesday told the INQUIRER that based on their monitoring, the passengers were all healthy.

Puentespina said she called the passengers who told her that they were fine.

"They are all okay now. They just had those symptoms for the past three weeks and based on our monitoring, they have been fine," she said.

The Department of Health urged the public not to panic because there had been no confirmed SARS case in the Philippines.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit issued an advisory following the high demand for masks in the wake of unconfirmed reports that SARS was already in the country.

"We have no confirmed case yet so there is no need for the public to panic and secure masks for themselves," Dayrit said in a news release.

Bahandi said 10 to 20 passengers manifested SARS-like symptoms upon arrival from Hong Kong, Singapore and Taipei. SARS cases have been reported in Hong Kong and Singapore.

Based on the health checklist given to passengers during boarding, Bahandi said the passengers had fever, cough, sore throats and body weakness for three weeks before the flight.

SARS is characterized mainly by fever and cough. After five to seven days, the infected person develops SARS.

Bahandi said the passengers were told to subject themselves to quarantine at home for 10 days to determine if they were infected of the mysterious disease.

Quarantine

"We have at least 10-20 passengers who have been manifesting such symptoms based on the checklist. We advised them to confine themselves in their respective houses and contact us if they continue to have those symptoms," he said.

He said these symptoms may also be related to flight conditions experienced by passengers and not necessarily with SARS.

So far, Bahandi said they have not received any feedback from the monitoring team on the condition of these passengers.

"We are continually monitoring them since we have their telephone numbers and addresses but until now they have not even called us," he added.

Bahandi said all passengers coming from countries affected with SARS have been required to fill up health checklists or the so-called yellow forms during boarding at their point of origins.

MABUHAY
TO ALL PASSENGERS
TO ALL PASSENGERS

SARS alert is up at all airports in the country, starting with the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, the country's main gateway, where airport chief Edgardo Manda (right) supervises the setting up of quarantine checkpoints for possible carriers of the deadly disease.

PHOTO FROM NAIA

"My work at Cocolife allowed me to fulfill my mission in life."

"The freedom I have with Cocolife allowed me to take the path leading to my spiritual growth.

"Maybe if I was still in another company or if I was still holding on to my teaching job, then I won't have the time to pursue my other mission in life.

"Working with Cocolife allowed me to take care of myself financially and also spiritually. Bringing the word of God to a lot of people gives me immense joy.

"I have found my bliss and Cocolife helped me find it."

Interested in this kind of profession... call or see us. We'll discuss the benefits, the compensation, the privileges. We'll show you what freedom to live your life means.

Irene Mendoza

Previous Career:
Teacher

Present Career:
Cocolife Branch Manager
Santiago, Isabela Branch

Founder and Pastor
Jesus, The Master Pilot
Ministry

25 YEARS
COCOLIFE
FREEDOM TO LIVE YOUR LIFE

Fax this coupon if you want to be a Cocolife Financial Planner.

Name :
Address :
Tel. No. :
Ref # 6i

COCOLIFE Building, 6774 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Call Center: 810-7888 • Fax No: 812-9039 • Website:www.cocolife.com

4 children die in Cebu City fire

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Four children were killed on Tuesday afternoon when fire ate up their house in Sitio Calot, Barangay San Antonio, Boljoon town, some 103 kilometers south of Cebu City.

Police identified the fatalities as Jessa Inigo, 5; and her siblings Peggy, 3; Alexa, 2; and Fredlee, 1 and half years old.

Police said only the body of Fredlee was not burned beyond recognition because his elder siblings embraced him.

SP03 Cristino Uraca, investigator of the Boljoon police station, said the children were alone inside the house when the fire broke out at about 2:45 p.m.

The father, Guillermo, 34 and a carpenter, was working in a neighboring village while their mother, Lolita, 23, was fetching water from a distant well.

Uraca said the parents believed that their children were playing with a lighter.

By the time Lolita arrived, Uraca said, the house was already razed to the ground.

www.whirlpool.com.ph

Millions suffer asthma

Asthma is primarily an all-
hat can be triggered b
reservatives, pollens,
hemicals and fumes, the h
obacco. Emotional stress and
an also trigger an attack.
The stakes are high: Millions

10 HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

EPA studies sh
air pollutants le

EPA studies of human exposure t
that indoor levels of many pollutants
higher than outdoor levels. These levels
are of particular concern because it is
people spend approximately 90 percent
In recent years, comparative risk studie
and its Science Advisory Board have consi
air pollution among the top five environ
health. EPA, in close cooperation with ot
and the private sector, has begun a conce
understand indoor air pollution and to reduc
to air pollutants in offices, homes, schools
environments where people live, work and
Tobacco smoking has long been recogni
cause of death and disease, responsible for
434,000 deaths per year in the United State
known to cause lung cancer in humans, and
factor for heart disease.
In recent years, there has been concern th
may also be at risk for some of these health eff
of their exposure ("passive smoking") to the sm
by smokers and smoke given off by the burning
cigarettes. As part of its effort to address all typ
air pollution, in 1988, EPA's Indoor Air Divisio
Indoor Environments Division) requested that E
of Research and Development (ORD) undertake an
of the respiratory health effects of passive smokin

A3

Long term exp
to air pollutior
cause death

All kinds of activities contri
the air we breathe. In additic
causes of pollution, day-to-d
as driving, filling your car
cleaning, and using househo
gases and particles to the a
concentrations, these poll
environment and us.
The average adult breathe
of air every day. Childre
air per pound of body w
susceptible to air pollut
also more sensitive to
they often have heart c
People exposed to high
air pollutants may exp
eyes, an irritated throat
Long-term exposure
cancer and long-tern
neurological, reproc

Filipino domes
helper who was
fected with the hig
ly contagious Seve
Acute Respirato
System (SARS) w
moved yesterday
the intensive ca
unit of the Prince
Wales Hospital aft
her condition dete
orated, according
sources at the Phili
pine Consulate Ge
eral.
Mylene Luzon, 2
was admitted to t
hospital in Sha T
district in the Ne
Territories on Mar
14 after showi
symptoms of SAR
She has been co
fined since then, a
the doctor said t
patient was not r
sponding to the trea
ment administered
her

Pinay with killer pneumonia take to I

Better to be Safe than Sorry.

How can you be sure about the health of your family when the biggest threat to it can't even be seen by the naked eye? Most of the world's most dangerous viruses are airborne and invisible.

It's time to have the Whispure Air Purifier, with its exclusive Filtrete True Hepa Filter from 3M, which captures 99.97% of airborne particles as small as 0.3 micron passing through the filter. It cleanses the air so you could breathe a little easier knowing your family is safe.

Whispure™
Air Purifiers
Models :
5EAP15030 - for rooms less than 18 sq. meters
5EAP25030 - for rooms 19-25 sq. meters

Featuring the Filtrete HEPA Filter 3M

You and Whirlpool. The world's best homemakers.

Whirlpool HOME APPLIANCES
BRINGS QUALITY TO LIFE.

Available at the following Whirlpool showrooms and leading appliance stores nationwide:

Excellence Appliance Technologies
22 D Tuazon St. Quezon City
Tel 732-7370

Automatic Centre
6797 Ayala Ave cor Herrera Makati
Tel 893-6501 or 63

Automatic Centre
Glorietta 4 3rd level Ayala Center Makati
Tel 729-6450 or 51

Automatic Centre
Alabang Town Center, 3rd level Muntinlupa City
Tel 809-2292 or 809-6662

Automatic Centre
SM Southmall, 3rd Level, Zapote Road Las Pinas
Tel 800-4724

Anson Emporium
2nd level Anson Bldg, Pasay Road Makati
Tel 892-2208/ 843-5024

Abenson, Inc.
Zapote Road, Alabang
Tel : 802-2001/802-2141

GMA: Total war on terror

From page A1

were careful to say they did not know if the attacks had anything to do with the wharf explosion, which occurred at about 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday.

"We must not be intimidated," the President said Wednesday. "The police and the military alone cannot do the job. This is a total war requiring the full attention and resources of the entire community. Each citizen must be the eyes and ears to sense danger and initiative to immediately report to authorities."

Yesterday, Ms Macapagal said prayers at the blast site, which was covered with flowers and candles. She also talked to the injured at Davao Medical Center and gave them money as part of government assistance.

In a radio interview, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said the President's declaration would allow the military to assist the police in tracking down the suspected bombers.

Golez said the military can help the police conduct "a crackdown with checkpoints and visibility patrols," but stressed, "we are not going to violate the rights of the public."

Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong justified the President's declaration, explaining that it was part of the executive function of the President.

"She can call the AFP to suppress violence, to prevent the recurrence of what had happened," he said.

"No rights are suspended under a state of lawlessness. Under this, the AFP is called upon to suppress lawless violence to protect persons and properties," he stressed.

Armed Forces Vice Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia said the military was just waiting for instructions. "Our legal people will just have to define the limits of the powers that would now be vested on the authorities under the state of lawless violence as declared by the President," Garcia said.

Four attacks

The first attack occurred at around 1:30 a.m. yesterday, when gunmen fired on a mosque in the Ecoland area.

Minutes later, five men onboard a maroon Isuzu Fuego pickup sprayed a mosque in Ilang, Tibungco district, with gunfire. Two men riding in the back of the pickup hurled two hand grenades, damaging the mosque.

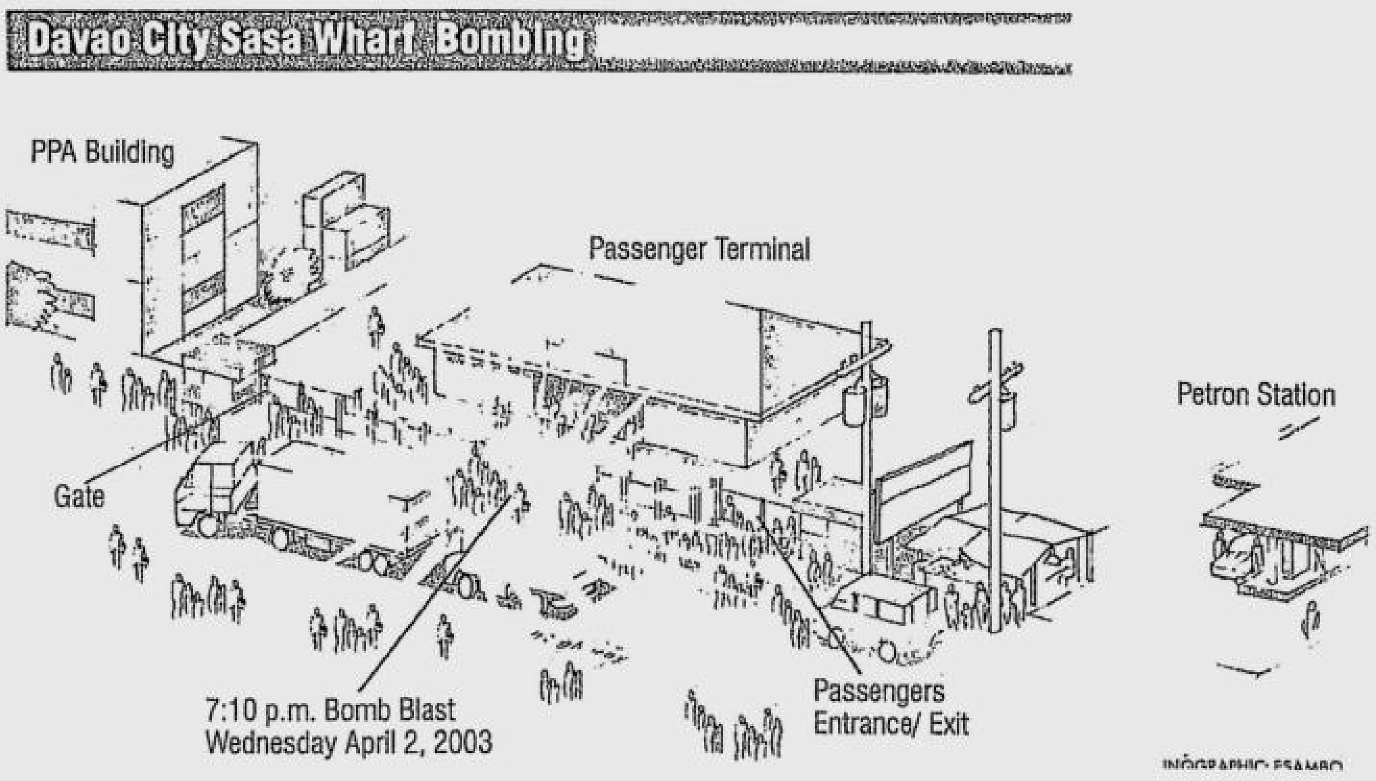
Witnesses said the suspects immediately sped off to the downtown area where police and military forces set up checkpoints following the wharf bombing.

Police recovered several empty shells from M-16 Armalite and M-14 assault rifles from the scene.

Minutes later, a grenade was lobbed into the entrance of a mosque in Mini-Forest, Quezon Boulevard.

Manding said the people inside, numbering more than 10, were lucky the grenade did not reach the mosque itself.

In the same hour, unidentified men launched a rocket-propelled grenade that landed on a farm near a mosque in Barangay Sirawan in Toril district.



INFOGRAPHIC: ESAMBO

City Councilor Amilbansa Manding urged his fellow Muslims to stay calm and not take the law into their own hands. He also asked the government not to condition the public's mind into believing that Muslims were behind the wharf bombing. "That is unfair since not all Muslims are bad. We are even saddened by the incident," he said.

A witness said the Sasa wharf bomber had carried the bomb in a package placed in a yellow plastic bag.

CLEANING up after a grenade hits the facade of the Masjid Altaqwa mosque in Davao City before dawn. EDWIN BACASMAS

Duterte said the witness told investigators the man left the package in the crowd of well-wishers, then pretended to buy barbecue at a nearby stall.

The man, a cartographic sketch of whom was shown to reporters yesterday, reportedly left moments before the explosion.

"There were a lot of people who saw the guy coming in," Duterte said.

The suspected bomber was judged to be about 36 years old, 5'4" to 5'7" in height, of medium built with a white complexion.

But Chief Supt. Isidro Lapena, police chief for Southern Mindanao, said investigators had not ascertained if the suspect left the scene before the bomb went off.

Lapena said they do not discount the possibility the suspect may have been among those killed or injured.

"We have to double-check the hospitals and morgues where the dead and the wounded were brought. We will also get information from victims, this is standard operating procedure," he said.

Initial investigation by the police identified the bomb to be potassium nitrate placed in a "jetmatic pack."

"We also recovered metal parts but this will still be subjected to metallurgical examination," Lapena said.

MILF hand?

Asked if the Moro Islamic Liberation Front could have been behind the bombing, Lapena said: "We are not ruling out anybody."

The MILF immediately denied involvement in the seaport blast.

Lapena said they have invited people for questioning but refused to identify them.

"They can shed light on the investigation," he said.

But the mayor said investigators were exploring all theories. He could not give specific answers on the type of bomb pending results of the forensic examination.

"All we have now (are) government probabilities. The forensic group is at it. We don't have the results, it's being worked on by the police crime laboratory. We expect to have a copy of that exam by this afternoon," Duterte said.

But from the looks of it, Duterte said, it could be the same type of explosive used in the March 4 Davao International Airport bombing that killed 22 people and injured 133 others.

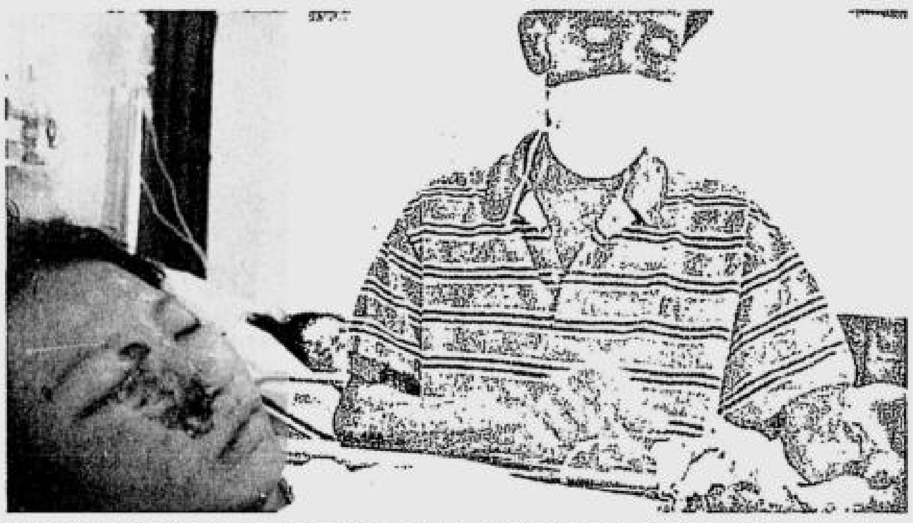
The city government issued a statement, hours after the bombing, asking residents, "as an added precautionary measure" to "refrain from bringing and/or carrying backpacks unless you are traveling."

"Under a state of lawless violence, I can empower the military to do these crackdowns," the President said on Wednesday.

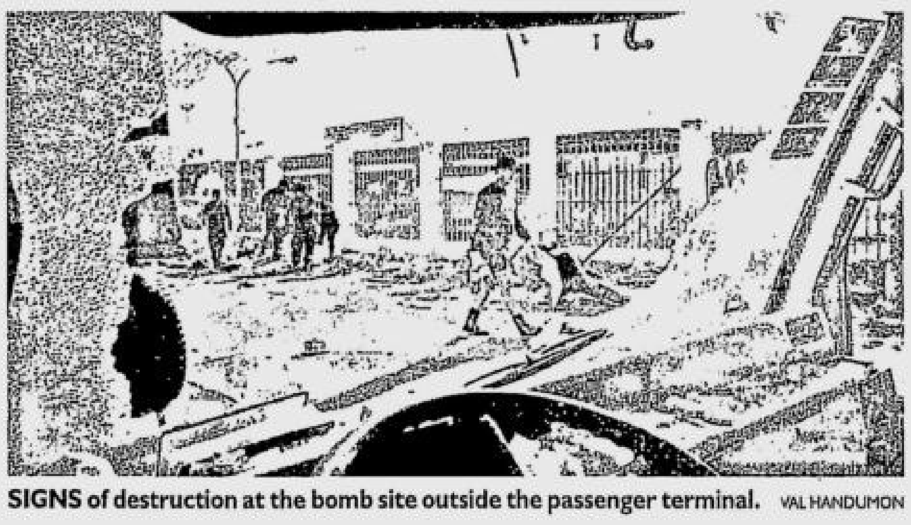
Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., a lawyer who hails from Mindanao, said Ms Macapagal's declaration was "not anywhere near martial law" but he expressed reservations about potential civil rights abuses.

"This can be misinterpreted by the law enforcers as a go signal for a crackdown on the population," he told Reuters.

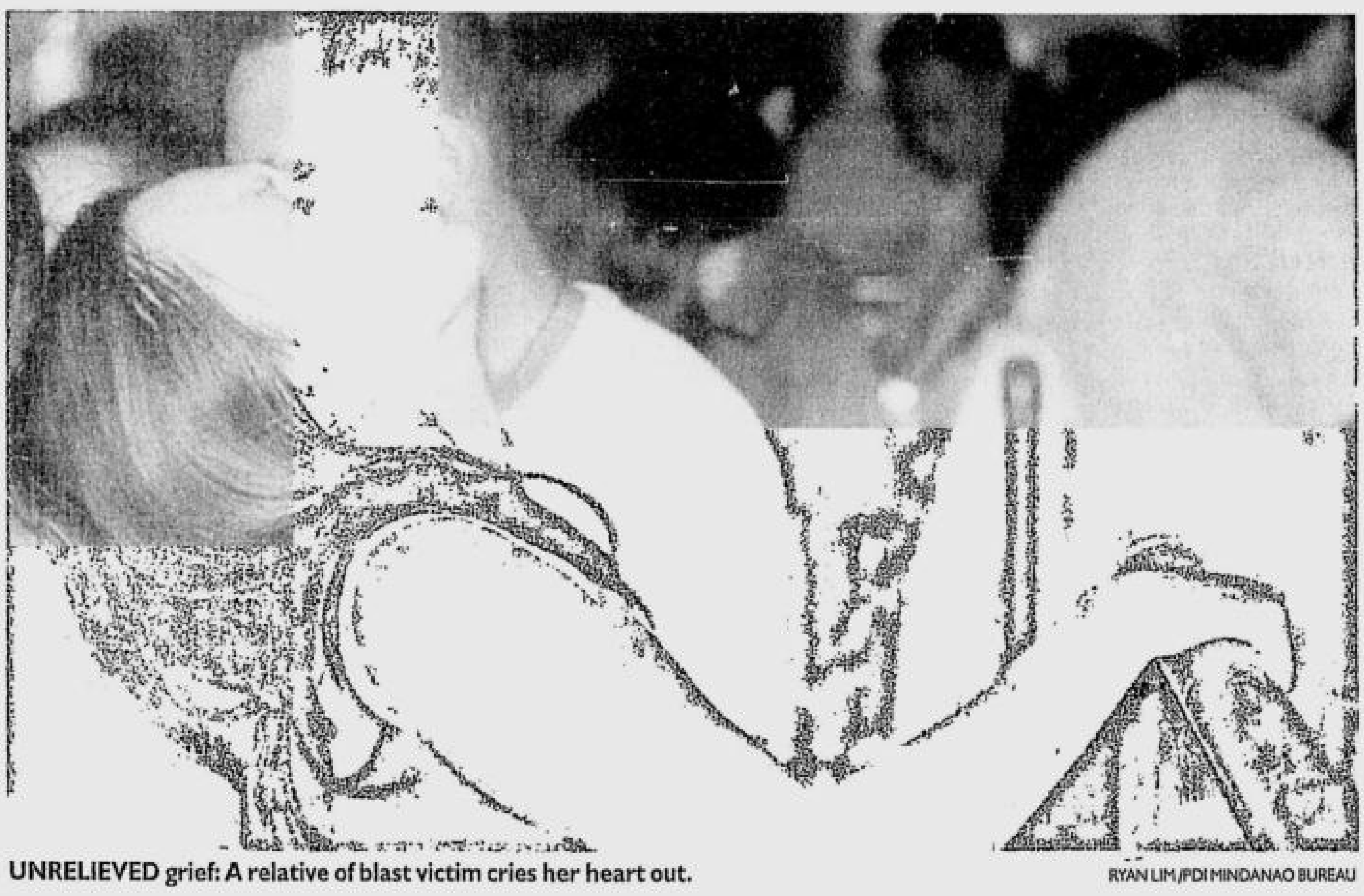
"I am a little apprehensive that they might harass people and probably do their racial and ethnic profiling, which could worsen the situation in Mindanao." *Anthony S. Allada, Joel B. Escovilla, Joselle R. Badilla, Ayan C. Mellejor, Charlie C. Senase, Edwin O. Fernandez and Rosa-May V. de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AFP, AP, Reuters; Michael Lim Ubac, Martin Marfil*



TAKING care of two bombing victims, his daughter Glenda Santiago (foreground) and granddaughter Idiolet Santiago, 18, Luis Santiago has his hands full at the Davao Medical Center. VAL HANDUMON



SIGNS of destruction at the bomb site outside the passenger terminal. VAL HANDUMON



UNRELIEVED grief: A relative of blast victim cries her heart out. RYAN LIM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Sister Dulce fighter for peace, oppressed

From page A1

Sister Dulce's close friends remember her as having started the fad of saying "I love you one, I love you 2, I love you 3'," which she learned from a 6-year-old boy named Anton who turned up in her life and whose background she did not know.

Sister Dulce wrote verses titled "Anton," part of which said: "Discovering Anton then, is also discovering myself/ In the world full of hatred and pain/Love will always give joy./For Anton, I love you two, equals I love you one,/And for best friends, I love you two equals I love you all!"

At the time of her death, Sister Dulce, 40, was the social action coordinator of the Zamboanga archdiocese. (The social action center serves the needs of the poor and promotes justice and peace in a given diocese.)

Sister Dulce was also with the Franciscan Movement for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation and at the same time a mediator of the Stichting Liliane Fonds of Holland which serves the disabled poor. Before she moved to Zambonga, Sister Dulce, who was born in Santiago, Isabela, worked among the disabled in Butuan City. She was also with Kaalagad, a national ecumenical reflection-action group composed of church workers. She had also worked in Aklan and Zambales as a pastoral worker.

Sr. Josephini Ambatali, SFIC head in the Philippines, said Sister Dulce, two other nuns of her congregation and a lay associate left Zamboanga for Davao City to join other nuns in a spiritual retreat in Catalunan Grande. They traveled aboard the ferry that docked at the Sasa wharf.

When the bomb exploded, the nuns from Zamboanga and the Davao nuns who met them had just boarded their vehicle outside the gate.

"After the blast, the nuns rushed out of the vehicle and realized Sister Dulce was not with them," Sister Josephini said. "They went back for her right away and found her bleeding and dying. Sister Dulce was badly hit in the face."

Sr. Aurora Gonzales drove her to Davao Medical Center but it was too late. Another nun also sustained wounds.

Fr. Meliton Oso, director of Jaro, Iloilo social action center, said he condemned the bombing in the strongest possible terms.

"Should I say condemn or denounce? What is the strongest and the right word?" he said over a telephone, his voice choking.

Fr. Sauro David, social action director of the diocese of Kalibo, Aklan, said the death of De Guzman was a big loss to the Catholic Church.

"We lost one advocate of peace and sustainable development," he said.

David said De Guzman was assigned in the parish of Libacao town, Aklan province, some years ago.

"She died a martyr for what she had been fighting for—justice and against violence," said Sr. Rorie Gonzalez, vocation directress of Cebu City.

Sister Dulce's remains will be brought to Manila today and will lie in state at St. Joseph's College chapel in Quezon City.

Sister Dulce had recently organized a campaign against the Purchased Power Adjustment, and spearheaded movements against war and violence.

"And she (became) a victim herself. She was a sacrificial lamb for the justice and peace," Sister Rorie said. *With reports from Julie S. Alipala and Ayan C. Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau; and Ma. Diosa Labiste, PDI Visayas Bureau.*

'Ma, bring me to the hospital'; 'Son, there's no car'

From page A1

She said her boy was extraordinarily sweet.

"He was the one preparing my bed. He also found ways to relieve his father's stress from working as a garbage collector," Felomina said.

Bonnel was also so thrifty that out of his daily allowance of P30, he was able to save P100 at the end of school days.

He was saving so he could have his two front teeth repaired.

Like typical teenagers, Bonnel was slowly becoming conscious of his looks because "a lot of girls had started taking interest in him," his mother said.

Family trip

After disembarking from Superferry 15, Christopher Morales was excited. He had brought his family to attend his wife's brother's funeral, but he was also looking forward to a reunion with his wife's relatives.

His wife Marilou had given birth to a baby boy 12 days ago and it would be the first time relatives would see the baby.

For this reason, Morales, of Peldira 2, Ninoy Aquino Road in Pasay City, agreed to come to Davao with his wife Marilou Asis to condole with his in-laws.

A few days ago, Marilou's brother Richard had died after a knife-wielding man attacked him.

After exchanging pleasantries with Rodito, another brother of Marilou's, the Moraleses haggled their way out of the Sasa Port to the waiting service vehicle that would bring them to Richard's wake.

As they were approaching the gate, the powerful bomb exploded.

Rodito and his nephew John Ray, 12, died instantly. Christopher died in the hospital.

Marilou, 36, and her sons John Mark, the 12-day old infant, John Christian, 2, Christopher Jr., 14, and Charlie, 18, were also critically wounded and were rushed to the hospital.

Richard was buried yesterday afternoon. But now there are three more coffins to pray over: those of John Ray, Rodito and Christopher. *Dennis Jay C. Santos and Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

SONY Handycam & Cyber-shot

nO% Interest Installment for 6 or 12 months

via BPI Express Credit · PayLite citibank · Equitable Card VISA · AIG American International · Standard Chartered · METROBANK · Diners Club International

ABENSON

your partner to good life

COOL DEALS!

GET A DESK FAN

P88 only

for every purchase of selected AIRCON

CONDURA
FCC055BP
- 0.50 Hp (5,500 kj/hr)
- 10.3 EER

P9559

Kelvinator
FPFCK075BP
- 0.75 Hp (7,400 kj/hr)
- 11.5 EER

P9995

SAMSUNG
AW-07F2NBB
- 0.75 Hp
- 12 Hr. timer

P10995

LG
LWC093GSAE1
- 1Hp
- With timer

P9995

SHARP
AF-A1201
- 1.5 Hp (12,600 kj/hr)
- 9.6 EER

P12298

Carrier
APXRM195BA
- 2.0 Hp (19,600 kj/hr)
- Anti-bacterial filter

P19975

SANYO
SR-8K
- Manual Defrost personal refrigerator

P7088

81 Liters (2.7 cu.ft)

National
CS/ UC18BKN6
- 2.0 Hp
- Split type high wall mounted

P35999

Carrier
ASBFM360BA
- 3 Ton packaged split floor

P50020

GET A BLENDER

P8 only

for every purchase of selected refrigerator

National
NR-A602F
- Manual defrost freezer

P11599

180 Liters (6.0 cu.ft) FREEZER

SANYO
SBC282
- Contents not included

P20185

BEVERAGE CHILLER
264 Liters (9.8 cu.ft)

Whirlpool
CHEST FREEZER WCF-17

P19950

Chest freezer 480 Liters (17 cu.ft.)

White-Westinghouse
WR1799C
- Semi-automatic defrost ref

P9750

150 Liters (5.0 cu.ft)

SHARP
SJ14T
- Manual defrost

P7398

150 Liters (5.0 cu.ft)

Kelvinator
KPS7SD
- Cycle defrost ref

P8898

210 Liters (7.0 cu.ft)

SAMSUNG
SR24WMB
- 2 door
- No frost • With water dispenser

P15995

255 Liters (8.5 cu.ft)

CONDURA
CPS9TD
- Cycle defrost, 2 door

P13995

270 Liters (9.0 cu.ft)

LG
GR382GV
- No frost Ref

P20295

330 Liters (11.0 cu.ft)

*Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0621 Series of 2003

Promo Period: April 4 - May 30, 2003

KALOOKAN
GRAND CENTRAL
Tels. 363-5246/363-5338

PASIG
ORTIGAS - EVER
Tels. 656-6643 to 47

PASAY
METROPOINT - TAFT AVE
Tels. 833-7829

SAN JUAN
GREENHILLS - UNIMART
Tels. 721-0590/84

MANILA
ROBINSONS - ERMITA
Tels. 536-8029/536-7914
HARRISON PLAZA
Tels. 521-8568/69

MAKATI
QUAD 1
Tels. 816-399
WALTERMART PASONG TAMO
Tels. 813-4444/894-3730

MARIKINA
RIVERBANKS MALL
Tels. 941-5003

MUNTINLUPA
METROPOLIS
Tels. 809-8172/74
ALABANG
Tels. 850-8848 to 50
FILINVEST FESTIVAL MALL
Tels. 850-3775 or 79

PARAÑAQUE
PEARL PLAZA, TAMBO
Tels. 851-8401 to 05
SUCAT- JAKA
Tels. 829-2686/88

PAMPANGA
NEPOMALL, ANGELES CITY
Tel (845) 888-9086

MANDALUYONG
MANDALUYONG
Tels. 631-5188/631-8161 to 64
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA
Tels. 638-8017 to 19

LAS PIÑAS
PAMPALONA
Tels. 872-0576/77

BATANGAS
FIESTA WORLD MALL - LIPA
Tels. (043) 404-1696
(043) 404-1655

TAYUMAN
PUREGOLD PRICEMART
Tels. 252 5787

BULACAN
MEYCAUAYAN
Tels. (044) 228-2117

CABANATUAN
NE PACIFIC MALL NUEVA ECIJA
Tels. (044) 464-1481 to 84

RIZAL
STA. LUCIA 1 - CAINTA
Tels. 645-0402/04
STA. LUCIA 3 - CAINTA
Tels. 681-5301

TARLAC
LUISITA, TARLAC
Tels. (045) 985-1278

CAVITE
CARMONA
Tels. (046) 430-2702 to 04
GEN. TRIAS
Tels. (046) 419-1150
ROSARIO
Tels. (046) 448-5450
WALTERMART DASMARIÑAS
Tels. (046) 416-2104
LOTUS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 515-5749
ROBINSONS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 471-8020 or 30

MALABON
MALABON CITISQUARE
Tels. 285 9729

LAGUNA
OLIVARES MALL BIÑAN
Tels. 699-2316
PAVILION MALL BIÑAN
Tels. (049) 411-4510/11
WALTERMART CALAMBA
Tels. (049) 545-7035
WALTERMART STA. ROSA
Tels. (049) 549-1243
SAN PABLO
Tels. (049) 562-8242

QUEZON CITY
FARMERS
Tels. 911-1071
RUSTAN'S
Tels. 911-2312/13
WALTERMART E. RODRIGUEZ
Tels. 724-2528
SM CITY CARPARK
Tels. 920-9151 to 53 /926-8829
ROBINSONS GALLERIA
Tels. 632-9101 to 05
CENTER MALL FAIRVIEW
Tels. 937-5911
EVER COMMONWEALTH
Tels. 951-8976
CIRCLE C MALL CONGRESSIONAL AVE
Tels. 927-9432

BICOL
LIBERTY CENTER NAGA
Tels. (054) 473-5973
LIBERTY CENTER LEGASPI
Tels. (054) 448-7949
PACIFIC MALL - LEGASPI
Tels. (052) 480-6264

Here are some Sony Handycams and digital cameras you can buy and take with you on your summer getaways.

SONY CYBERSHOT DSC U10
nO% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.3 megapixels
- Auto focus
- Weighs only 87g:
- MPEG movie (without audio)

SONY CYBERSHOT DSC-U20
nO% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 2.0 megapixels
- Auto power on
- Weighs only 87g: Lightweight
- Measures 84.5(W) x 39.8(H) x 28.6(D)mm:Ultracompact

SONY DCR TRV18
nO% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- CCD 680000 pixels
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 10x optical zoom / 120x digital zoom

SONY DCR TRV25
nO% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.07 megapixels CCD Quality
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom

SONY DCR-PC101
nO% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- Ultra compact megapixels CCD Digital Video
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom

SONY DCR-IP45
nO% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- 2.5" Hybrid LCD
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom
- New style MICROMV with memory stick

SONY DCR-PC115
nO% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.55 megapixels CCD
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- High resolution 530
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1474 Series of 2003

SONY Handycam & Cyber-shot

no % Interest Installment for 6 or 12 months

via BPI Express Credit · PayLite citibank · Equitable Card · AIG American International · Standard Chartered · METROBANK · Diners Club International

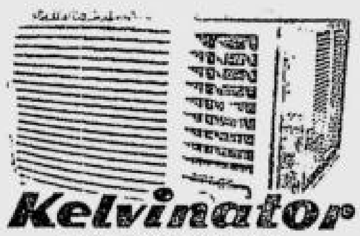
ABENSON

your partner to good life

COOL DEALS!

CONDURA
FCC055BP
- 0.50 Hp (5,500 kj/hr)
- 10.3 EER

P9559

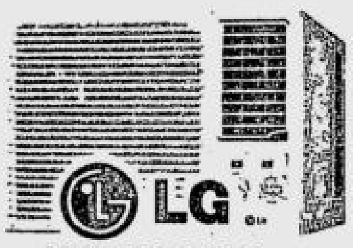


Kelvinator
FPFCK075BP
- 0.75 Hp (7,400 kj/hr)
- 11.5 EER

P9995

SAMSUNG
AW-07F2NBB
- 0.75 Hp
- 12 Hr. timer

P10995

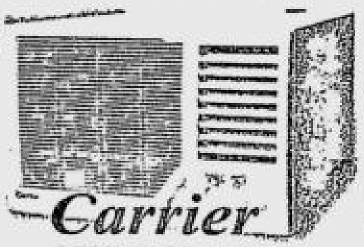


LG
LWC093GSAE1
- 1Hp
- With timer

P9995

SHARP
AF-A1201
- 1.5 Hp (12,600 kj/hr)
- 9.6 EER

P12298



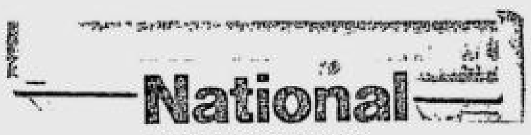
Carrier
APXRM195BA
- 2.0 Hp (19,600 kj/hr)
- Anti-bacterial filter

P19975

GET A DESK FAN

P88 only

for every purchase of selected AIRCON

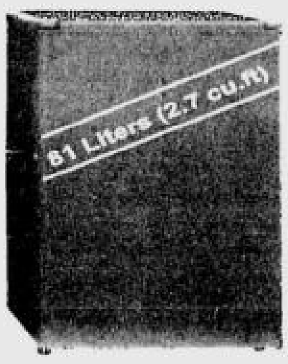


National
CS/ UC18BKN6
- 2.0 Hp
- Split type high wall mounted

P35999

Carrier
ASBFM360BA
- 3 Ton packaged split floor

P50020



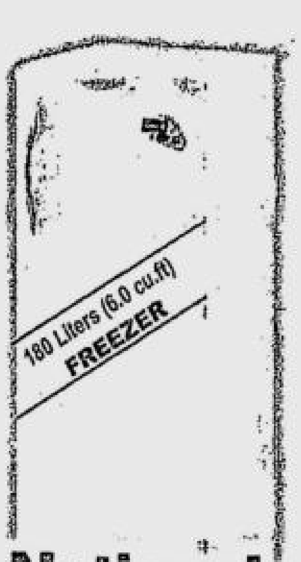
SANYO
SR-8K
- Manual Defrost personal refrigerator

P7088

GET A BLENDER

P8 only

for every purchase of selected refrigerator



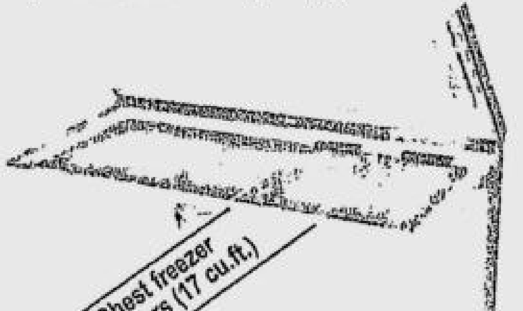
National
NR-A602F
- Manual defrost freezer

P11599

BEVERAGE CHILLER
264 Liters (8.8 cu.ft)

SANYO
SBC282
- Contents not included

P20185



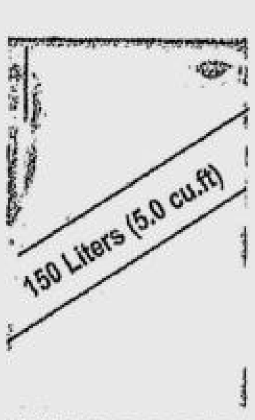
Whirlpool
CHEST FREEZER WCF-17

P19950

150 Liters (5.0 cu.ft)

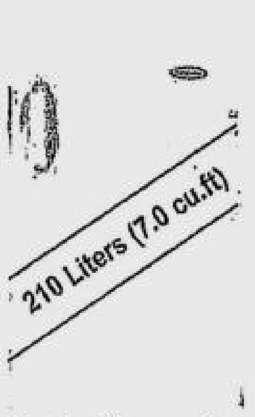
White-Westinghouse
WR1799C
- Semi-automatic defrost ref

P9750



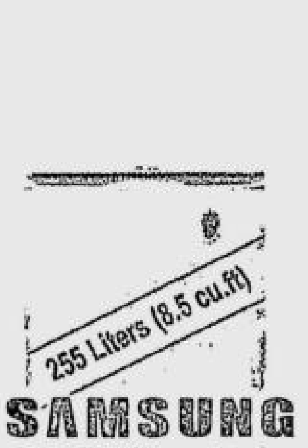
SHARP
SJ14T
- Manual defrost

P7398



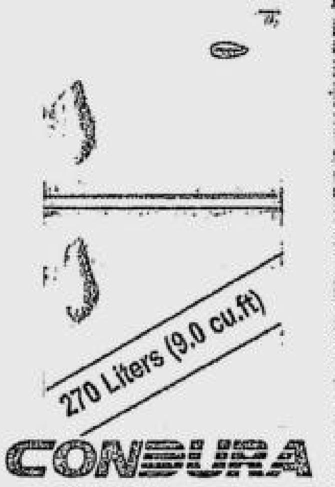
Kelvinator
KPS7SD
- Cycle defrost ref

P8898



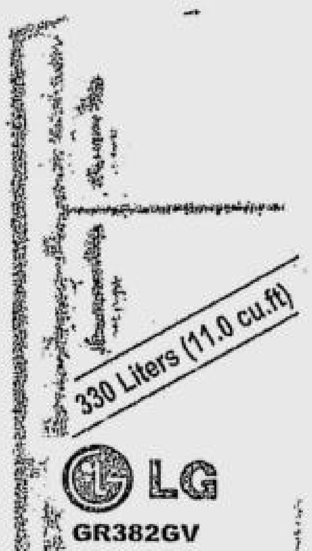
SAMSUNG
SR24WMB
- 2 door
- No frost
- With water dispenser

P15995



CONDURA
CPS9TD
- Cycle defrost, 2 door

P13995



LG
GR382GV
- No frost Ref

P20295

*Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0621 Series of 2003

Promo Period: April 4 - May 30, 2003

KALOOKAN
GRAND CENTRAL
Tels. 363-5246/363-5338

PASIG
ORTIGAS - EVER
Tels. 656-6643 to 47

PASAY
METROPOINT - TAFT AVE
Tels. 833-7829

SAN JUAN
GREENHILLS - UNIMART
Tels. 721-0590/84

MANILA
ROBINSONS - ERMITA
Tels. 536-8029/536-7914
HARRISON PLAZA
Tels. 521-8568/69

MAKATI
QUAD 1
Tels. 816-399
WALTERMART PASONG TAMO
Tels. 813-4444/894-3730

MARIKINA
RIVERBANKS MALL
Tels 941-5003

MUNTINLUPA
METROPOLIS
Tels. 809-8172/74
ALABANG
Tels. 850-8848 to 50
FILINVEST FESTIVAL MALL
Tels. 850-3775 or 79

PARAÑAQUE
PEARL PLAZA, TAMBO
Tels. 851-8401 to 05
SUCAT- JAKA
Tels. 829-2686/88

PAMPANGA
NEPOMALL, ANGELES CITY
Tel. (045) 888-9086

MANDALUYONG
MANDALUYONG
Tels. 631-5188/ 631-8161 to 64
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA
Tels. 638-8017 to 19

LAS PIÑAS
PAMPALONA
Tels. 872-0576/77

BATANGAS
FIESTA WORLD MALL - LIPA
Tels. (043) 404-1696
(043) 404-1655

TAYUMAN
PUREGOLD PRICEMART
Tels. 252-5787

BULACAN
MEYCAUAYAN
Tels. (044) 228-2117

CABANATUAN
NE PACIFIC MALL NUEVA ECIJA
Tels. (044) 464-1481 to 84

RIZAL
STA. LUCIA 1 - CAINTA
Tels. 645-0402/04
STA. LUCIA 3 - CAINTA
Tels. 681-5301

TARLAC
LUISITA, TARLAC
Tels. (045) 985-1278

CAVITE
CARMONA
Tels. (046) 430-2702 to 04
GEN. TRIAS
Tels. (046) 419-1150
ROSARIO
Tels. (046) 448-5450
WALTERMART DASMARIÑAS
Tels. (046) 416-2104
LOTUS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 515-5749
ROBINSONS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 471-8020 or 30

MALABON
MALABON CITISQUARE
Tels. 285-9729

LAGUNA
OLIVARES MALL BIÑAN
Tels. 699-2316
PAVILION MALL BIÑAN
Tels. (049) 411-4510/11
WALTERMART CALAMBA
Tels. (049) 545-7035
WALTERMART STA. ROSA
Tels. (049) 549-1243
SAN PABLO
Tels. (049) 562-8242

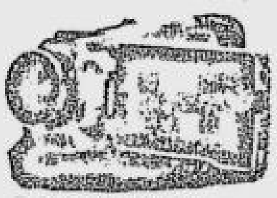
QUEZON CITY
FARMERS
Tels. 911-1071
RUSTAN'S
Tels. 911-2312/13
WALTERMART E. RODRIGUEZ
Tels. 724-2528
SM CITY CARPARK
Tels. 920-9161 to 63 /926-8829
ROBINSONS GALLERIA
Tels. 632-9101 to 05
CENTER MALL FAIRVIEW
Tels. 937-5911
EVER COMMONWEALTH
Tels. 951-8976
CIRCLE C MALL CONGRESSIONAL AVE
Tels. 927-9432

BICOL
LIBERTY CENTER NAGA
Tels. (054) 473-5973
LIBERTY CENTER LEGASPI
Tels. (054) 448-7949
PACIFIC MALL - LEGASPI
Tels. (052) 480-6264

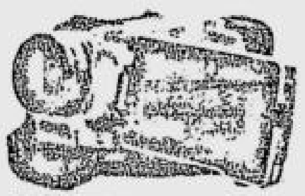
Here are some Sony Handycams and digital cameras you can buy and take with you on your summer getaways.

SONY
CYBERSHOT DSC U10
no % Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.3 megapixels
- Auto focus
- Weighs only 87g:
- MPEG movie (without audio)

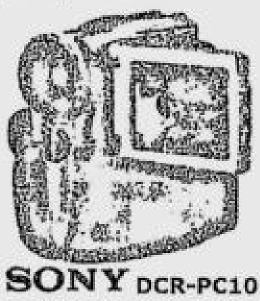
SONY
CYBERSHOT DSC-U20
no % Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 2.0 megapixels
- Auto power on
- Weighs only 87g: Lightweight
- Measures 84.5(W) x 39.8(H) x 28.6(D)mm:Ultracompact



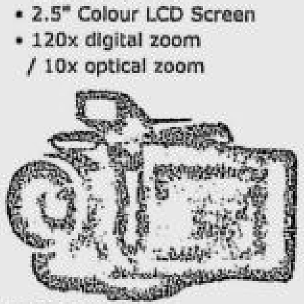
SONY DCR TRV18
no % Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- CCD 680000 pixels
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 10x optical zoom / 120x digital zoom



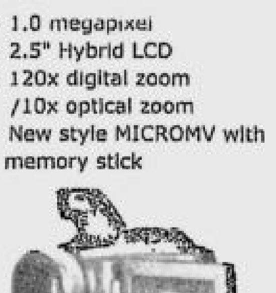
SONY DCR TRV25
no % Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.07 megapixels CCD Quality
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom



SONY DCR-PC101
no % Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- Ultra compact megapixels CCD Digital Video
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom



SONY DCR-IP45
no % Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- 2.5" Hybrid LCD
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom
- New style MICROMV with memory stick



SONY DCR-PC115
no % Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.55 megapixels CCD
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- High resolution 530
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1474 Series of 2003

SONY Handycam & Cyber-shot

no% Interest Installment for 6 or 12 months

via BPI Express Credit · PayLite citibank · Equitable Card VISA · AIG American International · Standard Chartered · METROBANK · Diners Club International

ABENSON

your partner to good life

COOL DEALS!

GET A DESK FAN

P 88 only

for every purchase of selected AIRCON

CONDURA
FCC055BP
- 0.50 Hp (5,500 kj/hr)
- 10.3 EER

P9559

Kelvinator
FPFCK075BP
- 0.75 Hp (7,400 kj/hr)
- 11.5 EER

P9995

SAMSUNG
AW-07F2NBB
- 0.75 Hp
- 12 Hr. timer

P10995

LG
LWC093GSAE1
- 1Hp
- With timer

P9995

SHARP
AF-A1201
- 1.5 Hp (12,600 kj/hr)
- 9.6 EER

P12298

Carrier
APXRM195BA
- 2.0 Hp (19,600 kj/hr)
- Anti-bacterial filter

P19975

SANYO
SR-8K
81 Liters (2.7 cu.ft)
- Manual Defrost personal refrigerator

P7088

National
CS/ UC18BKN6
- 2.0 Hp
- Split type high wall mounted

P35999

Carrier
ASBFM360BA
- 3 Ton packaged split floor

P50020

GET A BLENDER

P 8 only

for every purchase of selected refrigerator

National
NR-A602F
180 Liters (6.0 cu.ft) FREEZER
- Manual defrost freezer

P11599

SANYO
SBC282
BEVERAGE CHILLER
264 Liters (8.8 cu.ft)
- Contents not included

P20185

Whirlpool
CHEST FREEZER WCF-17
Chest freezer 480 Liters (17 cu.ft.)

P19950

White-Westinghouse
WR1799C
150 Liters (5.0 cu.ft)
- Semi-automatic defrost ref

P9750

SHARP
SJ14T
150 Liters (5.0 cu.ft)
- Manual defrost

P7398

Kelvinator
KPS7SD
210 Liters (7.0 cu.ft)
- Cycle defrost ref

P8898

SAMSUNG
SR24WMB
255 Liters (8.5 cu.ft)
- 2 door
- No frost • With water dispenser

P15995

CONDURA
CPS9TD
270 Liters (9.0 cu.ft)
- Cycle defrost, 2 door

P13995

LG
GR382GV
330 Liters (11.0 cu.ft)
- No frost Ref

P20295

*Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0621 Series of 2003

Promo Period: April 4 - May 30, 2003

KALOOKAN
GRAND CENTRAL
Tels. 363-5246/363-5338

PASIG
ORTIGAS - EVER
Tels. 656-6643 to 47

PASAY
METROPOINT - TAFT AVE
Tels. 833-7829

SAN JUAN
GREENHILLS - UNIMART
Tels. 721-0590/84

MANILA
ROBINSONS - ERMITA
Tels. 536-8029/636-7914
HARRISON PLAZA
Tels. 521-8568/69

MAKATI
QUAD 1
Tels. 816-399
WALTERMART
PASONG TAMO
Tels. 813-4444/894-3730

MARIKINA
RIVERBANKS MALL
Tels 941-5003

MUNTINLUPA
METROPOLIS
Tels. 809-8172/74
ALABANG
Tels. 850-8848 to 50
FILINVEST
FESTIVAL MALL
Tels. 850-3775 or 79

PARAÑAQUE
PEARL PLAZA, TAMBO
Tels. 851-8401 to 05
SUCAT- JAKA
Tels 829-2080/88

PAMPANGA
NEPOMALL, ANGELES CITY
Tel (045) 888-9086

MANDALUYONG
MANDALUYONG
Tels. 631-5188/
631-8161 to 64
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA
Tels 638-8017 to 19

LAS PIÑAS
PAMPALONA
Tels 872-0576/77

BATANGAS
FIESTA WORLD MALL - LIPA
Tels. (043) 404-1696
(043) 404-1655

TAYUMAN
PUREGOLD PRICEMART
Tels 252-5787

BULACAN
MEYCAUAYAN
Tels (044) 228-2117

CABANATUAN
NE PACIFIC MALL
NUEVA ECIJA
Tels. (044) 464-1481 to 84

RIZAL
STA. LUCIA 1 - CAINTA
Tels. 645-0402/04
STA. LUCIA 3 - CAINTA
Tels. 681-6301

TARLAC
LUISITA, TARLAC
Tels (045) 985-1278

CAVITE
CARMONA
Tels. (046) 430-2702 to 04
GEN. TRIAS
Tels. (046) 419-1150
ROSARIO
Tels. (046) 448-5450
WALTERMART
DASMARIÑAS
Tels. (046) 416-2104
LOTUS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 515-5749
ROBINSONS - IMUS
Tels. (046) 471-8020 or 30

MALABON
MALABON CITISQUARE
Tels 285 9729

LAGUNA
OLIVARES MALL
BIÑAN
Tels. 699-2316
PAVILION MALL
BIÑAN
Tels. (049) 411-4510/11
WALTERMART
CALAMBA
Tels. (049) 545-7035
WALTERMART
STA. ROSA
Tels. (049) 549-1243
SAN PABLO
Tels. (049) 562-8242

QUEZON CITY
FARMERS
Tels. 911-1071
RUSTAN'S
Tels. 911-2312/13
WALTERMART
E. RODRIGUEZ
Tels. 724-2528
SM CITY CARPARK
Tels. 920-9151 to 53
/926-8829
ROBINSONS
GALLERIA
Tels. 632-9101 to 05
CENTER MALL
FAIRVIEW
Tels 937-5911
EVER
COMMONWEALTH
Tels. 951-8976
CIRCLE C MALL
CONGRESSIONAL AVE
Tels 927-9432

BICOL
LIBERTY CENTER
NAGA
Tels. (054) 473-5973
LIBERTY CENTER
LEGASPI
Tels (054) 448-7949
PACIFIC MALL - LEGASPI
Tels. (052) 480-6264

Here are some Sony Handycams and digital cameras you can buy and take with you on your summer getaways.

SONY
CYBERSHOT DSC U10
no% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.3 megapixels
- Auto focus
- Weighs only 87g:
- MPEG movie (without audio)

SONY
CYBERSHOT DSC-U20
no% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 2.0 megapixels
- Auto power on
- Weighs only 87g: Lightweight
- Measures 84.5(W) x 39.8(H) x 28.6(D)mm:Ultracompact

SONY DCR TRV18
no% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- CCD 680000 pixels
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 10x optical zoom / 120x digital zoom

SONY DCR TRV25
no% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.07 megapixels CCD Quality
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom

SONY DCR-PC101
no% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- Ultra compact megapixels CCD Digital Video
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom

SONY DCR-IP45
no% Interest Installment for 6 MONTHS
- 1.0 megapixel
- 2.5" Hybrid LCD
- 120x digital zoom /10x optical zoom
- New style MICROMV with memory stick

SONY DCR-PC115
no% Interest Installment for 12 MONTHS
- 1.55 megapixels CCD
- 2.5" Colour LCD Screen
- High resolution 530
- 120x digital zoom / 10x optical zoom

Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1474 Series of 2003

US forces 10 km away from Baghdad; 500 Iraqis killed

From page A1

them, and Iraq dead in the roadway, and yes, American dead being tended on stretchers."

American forces took heart from the advance toward Baghdad. "Our guys are able to see the skyline. That's how close we've gotten," said one military official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said the plan was to begin to form a cordon around Baghdad and press the regime to surrender. Failing that, there was no word on when—or whether—forces would enter the city of 5 million.

As the war entered its third week the 3rd Infantry Division, backed by the 82nd Airborne Division, drove towards Baghdad from the southwest. US marines moved up from the southeast.

US commanders reported a breakthrough Wednesday in their campaign to chase Saddam from power, saying they had effectively destroyed the Medina and Baghdad Republican Guard divisions defending the approaches to Baghdad.

There was no immediate word on overall casualties among the Americans yesterday, but US officers said two US soldiers were killed in an apparent Iraqi rocket-propelled grenade attack west of the Euphrates.

The US forward headquarters in Doha said earlier a US F/A 18 Hornet fighter and its pilot, based on an aircraft carrier, had gone down Thursday. It did not confirm television reports the aircraft had been shot down.

A US Army Blackhawk helicopter was shot down Wednesday, but there were conflicting reports on the toll. The Pentagon said seven had died, while the US Central Command said that only six were aboard.

Euphrates bridge battle

Ferocious fighting erupted by the Euphrates River bridge captured by the Americans on Wednesday and targeted by three Iraqi counter-attacks on Thursday, a correspondent said.

US forces hit back with artillery fire from Bradley armored vehicles and Paladin guns, as well as from A-10 Thunderbolts which flew overhead.

The first counterattack launched shortly after midnight saw some 200 Iraqi soldiers line up behind a T-55 tank while a second around three hours later saw a similar number of troops take cover behind an armored personnel carrier.

Another 60 Iraqi troops staged a third counterattack around dawn but again encountered heavy casualties. Flashes of fire lit up the night sky around the river bank as the Iraqi troops used mortar fire.

"In the attack for this bridge and the counterattacks, probably 500 died," said Major John Altman, an intelligence officer with the 1st brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division said.

Having stripped off explosive charges from under the bridge, the US engineers planned yesterday to lay a 150-meter pontoon bridge alongside to allow even more US vehicles to cross the Euphrates, he said.

Running out of targets

Southeast of Baghdad, US marines supported by renewed air strikes pushed cautiously towards Baghdad from the town of Kut, around 150 km away. They braced for a decisive battle.

"We have accomplished every objective quickly and easily. I don't think it's a trap by the Republican Guard—they're still trying to fight but they have no training, poor equipment and they're very sloppy," said Master Gunnery Sergeant Errol Ovid.

Coalition jets and attack helicopters continued to weed out the Iraqi positions in Kut after a pause during the night when, according to one military source here, they "ran out of targets."

In the southern port of Basra, besieging British forces were still facing resistance from around 1,000 Iraqi militia, along with regular troops who have moved back into the city, a British military spokesperson said Thursday.

"There are somewhere around a thousand, but it may be more," Colonel Chris Vernon told reporters when asked the size of the irregular forces within the city.

"It's quite clear that elements of (the Iraqi army's) 51 brigade that we gave an opportunity to capitulate have pulled back inside," he added.

Toughest fighting ahead

In Doha, Qatar, the US Central Command said it was investigating reports that warplanes had bombed a Red Crescent maternity hospital in Baghdad.

Despite the gains on the battlefield, US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld cautioned that some of the toughest fighting may lie ahead, seeking to dampen speculation that the war might end quickly.

Iraq insisted the battlefield was tilting its way. "Victory is ours," Saddam said in a statement issued in his name. *AFP, AP, Reuters*

CLOSING in on the Iraqi capital, a US *Army* 3rd Division soldier ties up a surrendering Iraqi lieutenant colonel at an army outpost in the outskirts of Baghdad.

GETTY IMAGES

AT A GLANCE **THE WAR**

- US forces advance to within 15 km of the southern edge of Baghdad, US military says; US air raids batter the city.
- US Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks says, "The dagger is clearly pointed at the heart of the Baghdad regime."
- The commander of the 20,000-strong 3rd Infantry division said troops of his second brigade now control a key intersection south of Baghdad. He added they were 15 kms away from the city center and they have blocked southern access to Baghdad.
The 3rd Infantry Divsion backed by the 82nd Airborne Division had moved toward Baghdad from the southwest. US Marines moved up from the southwest.
- In central Iraq, US says its troops destroyed the Baghdad division of Republican Guard near Kut, southeast of the capital;
Iraq denies that US Marines secured a key bridge over Tigris River.
- US Black Hawk helicopter shot down near Karbala, the Shiite holy city.
- US says F/A-18 single-seat aircraft went down in Iraq, search under way for pilot, US TV networks say plane shot down by surface-to-air missile
- US Central Command says US army helicopter crashed in southern Iraq, says at least six on board, no confirmation of casualties; another US official at Pentagon says it was shot down by small arms fire, killing seven and wounding four on board.

Grand Chinese circus not coming to town

From page A1

scheduled to run from April 4 to 13 at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City, has been postponed because the performers will all come from Beijing. China is the hardest hit by the mysterious flu-like disease.

The P15-million production to be mounted by Uniprom Inc., the entertainment arm of Araneta Coliseum, has been tentatively rescheduled for May 30 to June 8, according to Lucas F. Pasiliao, the company's executive vice president.

Pasiliao said yesterday that Uniprom was willing to refund tickets for all the show dates. "We stand to lose a lot of money here, since we've already spent a lot for advertising."

He said Uniprom had been getting calls from people who did not want it to push through with the show because all the performers are from China.

"If any of the 56 circus performers carries the symptoms of SARS, the public will certainly point a finger at us," he said. "It will be really too risky to hold the show at this time. We don't want to be blamed for bringing the group to Manila."

No SARS cases here yet

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit said lack of awareness of the signs pointing to a SARS infection was resulting in "over-reporting" of SARS cases, which later turned out to be negative.

"The error is in over-reporting, not under-reporting (of cases of SARS)," Dayrit said. He noted that alleged cases of SARS brought to hospitals for observation were quickly being disseminated through text messages. In some of these cases, the doctors and nurses themselves were found to have sent out the text messages.

Dayrit said the health department would "strengthen the clinical guidelines for doctors for them to be better equipped in diagnosing possible cases of SARS."

Dayrit said an X-ray machine was the only sole means available at this time for testing people for the disease. "The X-ray will show a typical (SARS) pattern and so far, we have not been able to demonstrate that in any of our patients," he said.

In spite of assurances that there is no SARS case in the country, people continue to have a "high level of anxiety about the disease" because no cure has yet been found, the health secretary said.

He denied reports that a Filipino nurse from Calgary, Canada, had died of SARS in Angeles City. He said the nurse died of "bacterial infection."

He said that the nurse had not gotten in touch with any person with SARS. Besides, he said the SARS deaths in Canada occurred in Toronto and Vancouver. At least 151 SARS cases, including six deaths, have been reported in Canada.

Health officials in Angeles City said that a female *balikbayan* from Canada died on Wednesday night after showing symptoms of SARS. The woman arrived in the city from Canada on March 20.

Another woman, who became sick after fetching last week an overseas Filipino worker from Hong Kong at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, had been kept in isolation in the city starting Thursday, officials said.

Dr. Eric Tayag said there were still "no confirmed SARS cases" in Pampanga, including Angeles City.

In the second case, a 26-year-old woman from Mabalacat town was transferred from an Angeles hospital to another government hospital in the City of San Fernando.

IC Calaguas, Angeles City public information chief, said the woman sought medical care at the Ospital ng Angeles when she developed a fever.

Hospital turns away maid

In Ilagan, Isabela, doctors at the Faustino Dy Sr. Memorial Hospital in Barangay Calamagui 2nd refused to accept a domestic helper from Germany who was suspected of having SARS symptoms, fearing other patients would be infected by SARS.

Agnes Carvajal was taken to the hospital by her relatives at 8:30 a.m. Thursday but doctors did not treat her. They instead referred her to a hospital in nearby Nueva Vizcaya.

A doctor, who saw Carvajal at the emergency room, told the INQUIRER that the patient was not admitted because hospital workers feared they would be infected with the virus. "They refused to touch the patient," the doctor said.

Carvajal, a native of Barangay Arcon in Tumauini town, stopped over at Hong Kong where there is a full-blown SARS outbreak.

Hospital workers said Carvajal had high fever and shortness of breath, muscle and joint aches, was coughing and was very weak.

In Dagupan City, Dr. Jesus Canto, chief of the Region I Medical Center, said he received calls from people asking him if they were suffering from SARS because they had cough, fever and sore throat.

In Los Baños, Laguna, two of the 12 foreign scientists who arrived from Hong Kong on Monday wore protective masks.

The two scientists, whom International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) spokesperson Duncan Macintosh did not identify, like other delegates, were merely using Hong Kong as transit point.

"We can assure the public that our delegates and all of us here at IRRI are very healthy," Macintosh told the INQUIRER.

Ronald P. Cantrell, director general of IRRI, is hosting the IRRI's annual meeting of the board of trustees. The delegates are from the United States, Australia, Brazil, China, Africa, Germany, England, South Korea and Japan. *Reports from PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk; Leoncio Balbin Jr. and Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes and Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

SARS disrupts schedules, cultural ties, trade

From page A1

sions, making friendly port calls and attending exhibitions.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) has killed 78 people worldwide, mostly in China, Hong Kong and Vietnam, and more than 2,200 have been sickened in more than a dozen countries. Yesterday, a team of World Health Organization experts arrived in Guangdong, where the disease was first reported in China, to study the outbreak of the deadly disease.

In Wellington, Chinese delegates arriving for a sister city convention have been told they are not welcome, prompting a warning from Ambassador Chen Mingming that the action could damage a valuable source of New Zealand's tourism revenue.

Nineteen Chinese delegates were handed a letter upon arrival at Wellington airport asking them not to attend the Sister Cities convention in Masterton because of concerns over SARS. The convention Wednesday received a health advisory not to use the traditional Maori *hongi* or nose rubbing as part of their welcome greeting.

Chen said he feared the Masterton rejection "would have an adverse effect on the booming tourism trade between our two countries." He said Chinese people, particularly students, could get the impression they would be picked out for discrimination in New Zealand.

The delegates came from eight different provinces in China. Chen said they were all in excellent health. "I shook hands with each one of them myself," the ambassador said. "I am not scared."

In Manila, a federation of Chinese-Filipino businessmen has postponed indefinitely the visit of an investment mission from China.

Businessman Francis Chua said the visit of six businessmen from Southern China was canceled yesterday because none of the members of the federation was willing to entertain the visitors for fear of contracting SARS.

Also putting off their visit to Manila are Chinese acrobats. The holding of the "Grand National Circus of China," scheduled to run from April 4 to 13 at the Araneta Coliseum, has been postponed. *(See story on A1.)*

French warship

To prevent the spread of SARS, Thailand has turned back a French warship en route from Singapore.

The ship, with a crew of about 500, was scheduled to make a rest stop in the resort town of Pattaya on Saturday, but Thai officials warned the French navy of strict public health measures against the disease.

"We have informed them (the French navy) that the Thai Public Health Ministry has issued a decree to quarantine visitors who come from the SARS-risk countries, and they understand," said Thai navy spokesperson Rear Adm. Surasak Runrerngrom. "They agreed to skip the stopover here."

Singapore is among the places that have reported deaths from SARS.

Thailand has detected 11 suspected SARS cases, and two of the patients have died. More than 100 people have been quarantined.

In Taiwan, organizers have canceled a 10-day music festival after learning some German performers traveled on the same plane which carried a Taiwanese suspected to have been infected with SARS.

Two other performances by musicians from SARS-hit China had also been either postponed or scrapped over SARS concerns, said the National Chiang Kai-shek Cultural Center which organized the two events.

Seventeen musicians from the Ensemble Modern, a leading performer in the 2003 Contemporary Festival, arrived in Taipei from Seoul on March 28 on Thai Airways flight TG635, which was found to have also carried a Taiwanese now in observation for suspected SARS infection.

The Ensemble Modern and the French group Lespercussions De Strasbourg were originally scheduled to give nine performances at various Taipei venues for the Contemporay Festival, which was to run from April 4 to 14.

Under the SARS scare, a concert by the China National Orchestra Shanghai originally scheduled for April 12 was put off until September, while another one by Guangdong musician Yu Qiwei for May 10 was called off, the center's officials said.

Taipei was also forced to put off until later this year performances by several Chinese cultural troupes scheduled in April and May.

A total of 14 SARS cases have been reported in Taiwan. Most of the patients had traveled to mainland China and Hong Kong.

Port call in Nicaragua

While Taiwan is canceling musical performances by foreigners, crew members of its navy ships, which are scheduled for a port call in Nicaragua, may not be allowed ashore.

Five Taiwanese navy ships were expected in the Nicaraguan port of Corinto by the end of the week, bringing with them 840 Taiwanese sailors.

Nicaraguan Health Minister Jose Alvaro assured the jittery public that the government would not allow any of the sailors ashore "before making sure they don't represent any risk." He said his ministry was in contact with military, police and immigration authorities to assess the situation.

However, chief epidemiologist Juan Jose Amador sought to play down the risk, saying that the incubation period for the virus was 10 days, and if none of the sailors had fallen sick during the Pacific crossing, there would likely be no harm in letting them ashore.

In Switzerland, the government has barred visitors from China, Vietnam, Singapore and Hong Kong from working at exhibitions at the World Watch and Jewelry Show, according to the New York Times.

The newspaper said 400 of the 650 stands registered for the Zurich fair were closed because the employees of the stands, most of whom were already in Switzerland, were not allowed to work.

In Singapore, an Australian school choir en route to China on Thursday abandoned its tour after Canberra advised against all non-essential travel to regions affected by the deadly, pneumonia-like virus.

Fifty students from the Brighton High School in the southern city of Adelaide were in Singapore yesterday awaiting a return flight home.

They had left Adelaide on Wednesday without knowing about the latest foreign ministry advisory for Australians to defer traveling to China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Toronto, Canada.

When the students arrived in Singapore they were informed the tour had been canceled.

The students were scheduled to perform in Shanghai, Qingdao, Beijing and Xian over three weeks, but had earlier canceled performances in Singapore because of concerns over the SARS outbreak.

Australia has reported one case of SARS—a British tourist hospitalized in Sydney in Feburary but since recovered and returned home. Health authorities are monitoring four other possible cases—all people who recently traveled to affected Asian countries.

National threat

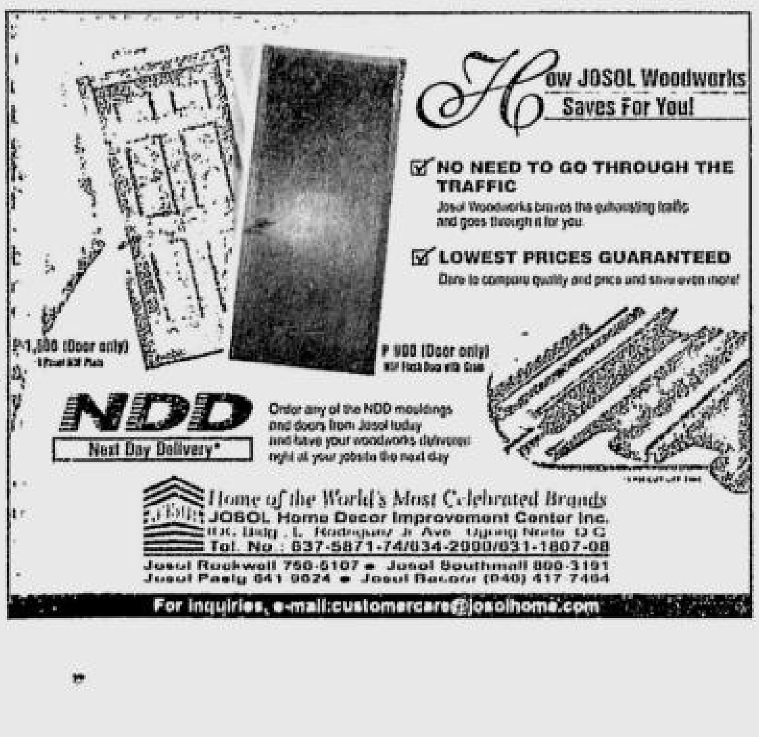
In Jakarta, Indonesian Vice President Hamzah Haz declared SARS a "national threat" while Indonesia prepared to grant health officials emergency powers to forcibly quarantine and treat patients with the illness.

"We must treat this as a national threat," Haz told reporters in Jakarta. "If not, this will be a new burden for all of us."

Indonesia has no confirmed cases of SARS, but is preparing for the possibility because of an outbreak in neighboring Singapore and other Asian countries.

One woman has been hospitalized in the central Javanese town of Semarang with SARS-like symptoms but health ministry officials said it's too early to say if she has the illness.

Schools on Batam, an Indonesian island off the coast of Singapore, have been closed from Thursday to Sunday as a precaution, local officials said. *With reports from AFP, AP and Gil Cabacungan*



How JOSOL Woodworks Saves For You!

☑ NO NEED TO GO THROUGH THE TRAFFIC
Josol Woodworks braves the exhausting traffic and goes through it for you.

☑ LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED
Dare to compare quality and price and save even more!

P1,800 (Door only)

P 900 (Door only)

NDD
Next Day Delivery*
Order any of the NDD mouldings and doors from Josol today and have your woodworks delivered right at your jobsite the next day

Home of the World's Most Celebrated Brands
JOSOL Home Decor Improvement Center Inc.
Tel. No.: 637-5871-74/634-2900/631-1807-08
Josol Rockwell 758-5107 • Josol Southmall 800-3191
Josol Pasig 641 9624 • Josol Bacoor (046) 417 7464
For inquiries, e-mail:customercare@josolhome.com

Ador somersaults, clears Lacson

From page A1

drug lord named Wang Ya Shi, alias "Golden Dragon."

As proof that he had contact with Arroyo, he showed reporters a "text message" from the First Gentleman's phone. Dated March 16, the message read: "I will wait for you at 3 p.m. at the Malacañang Golf Club. Pls. confirm."

Reached in Davao City by phone, Arroyo said of Mawanay: "He's crazy! I don't even know his number. Why would I do something like that?"

Told of the March 16 message, a surprised Arroyo said, "I can explain that," recalling that he had sent such a message to a certain "Fuentes."

Arroyo said he had earlier received three to four text messages from Fuentes, who was offering new information on Lacson's alleged links to drug syndicates. He said he forwarded all the messages to Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency chief Anselmo Avenido.

He also said that while he was "curious" about Fuentes' identity, he chose not to go to the 3 p.m. meeting and left it to Avenido to deal with Fuentes.

Later, Arroyo said, Fuentes sent another message asking if he could bring Mawanay along. Arroyo replied in the negative.

Fuentes sent another message "calling off the meeting all of a sudden," Arroyo said.

He then asked Arroyo if they could reset the meeting. "I told him to go directly to Avenido and not bother me again," Arroyo said.

Arroyo likened Mawanay's latest statement to scenes from a James Bond movie.

"The more you tell me, the more it looks like something planted by Lacson," he said.

Former anti-narcotics agent Mary "Rosebud" Ong, who testified before the Senate in late 2001 on Lacson's alleged links to organized crime, said: "I never trusted him from the start. He's a liar."

She also said Lacson "could have planted" Mawanay "to bungle our cases against him."

Mawanay walked into Room 517 of the Horizon Edsa Hotel in Mandaluyong City and immediately read aloud from a five-page affidavit dated March 24 and notarized by Makati-based lawyer Lourdes Espinosa.

He said he resurfaced because "individuals who had benefited by my exposé, as well as certain personalities who are fearful about additional information I possess, are now out to silence me."

He also:

- Said the government's allegations against Lacson's undeclared dollar accounts abroad and links to illegal drug syndicates were "all untrue."
- Denied his statements linking Lacson and Chief Supts. Michael Ray Aquino and Cesar Mancao to the murders of Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. employee Edgar Bentain and public relations man Salvador "Bubby" Dacer, as well as to kidnapping and drug trafficking operations.

Those were "pure fabrications formulated during my discussions with [National Bureau of Investigation Director] Reynaldo Wycoco and [military intelligence chief] Col. [Victor] Corpus," he said.

Lacson said Mawanay's retraction confirmed his suspicion that everything thrown at him shortly after he became senator in July 2001 and during the subsequent Senate hearings were part of Malacañang's "grand design" to demolish his chances of winning the presidency.

"While I have no hatred in my heart, I hope the people behind the smear campaign against me will show compunction and stop altogether their efforts to cast doubt on my integrity," the senator said.

But Corpus said Mawanay's retraction was meant to divert public attention from the Supreme Court's Tuesday resolution reopening the Kuratong Baleleng multiple-murder case against Lacson.

Corpus said he had Mawanay removed from the protective custody of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces after the latter swindled intelligence agents and civilians.

"After this action, I don't think Arroyo would 'adopt' Mawanay," Corpus said in a statement, adding:

"Let me just say that Mr. Mawanay lied over and over, including under oath, and one senator actually called him 'an incredible witness and a congenital liar.'"

At the open forum, Mawanay made a string of contradicting statements regarding his supposed possession or access to "documents" that, he said, he would produce "soon" to back his disclosures.

He turned evasive when asked about the time he first made public statements against Lacson in June 2001, on the radio program of dzBB's Arnold Clavio. (Mawanay first went to Clavio, who then referred him to Fr. Carmelo Calauag of Ateneo de Manila, before the Isafp took him into custody a month later.)

Asked what had caused him to go to Clavio, Mawanay replied: "I will reveal the unseen forces behind this scenario in due time." He refused to entertain follow-up questions on the subject.

Sought for comment by phone, Clavio said: "I expected him to retract."

Clavio recalled that former Sen. Ernesto Maceda once reminded him to be wary of helping people "who could have been planted" by politicians. He also clarified that he had never acted as Mawanay's "handler."

"He called me up to say that there were threats on his life," Clavio said. "I was just trying to help him. I pitied his two children. At the time he called to seek my help, they were staying at a motel." *With reports from Martin P. Marfil, TJ Burgonio and Cynthia D. Balana*

Ping no villain . . .

From page A1

complete opposite."

Garcia, publisher of The Sunday Punch, the Dagupan-based regional paper founded by his father, admitted that many people were "bothered" when he accepted the "assignment."

"My family and friends, everybody was concerned that I was lending my name to [Lacson's cause]," he said. "They were bothered by the public perception of Ping as a ruthless man, [one who is involved in] narco-politics."

Garcia, 55, was executive director of the Philippine Press Institute, the national association of 113 newspapers nationwide, in 1991-1998.

He was publisher of The Manila Times when President Joseph Estrada, Lacson's friend, sued the paper for libel in 1999, over a report naming Estrada an "unwitting *ninong* (godfather)" to an allegedly irregular P17-billion contract awarded to the Argentine power firm Impsa.

Garcia said he needed to be "comfortable" with the senator before he could take on a crucial role in the presidential campaign, and set out to clarify sensitive issues with the man himself.

"I talked to him. For instance, I asked him why I should believe him and not Rosebud," Garcia recalled. Rosebud is former undercover agent Mary Ong, who has accused Lacson of heinous crimes supposedly committed during his stint as chief of the Philippine National Police under Estrada.

Garcia also recalled asking Lacson point-blank about the charge that he was behind the 1995 summary execution of 11 suspected members of the Kuratong Baleleng bank robbery syndicate, a case that the Supreme Court ordered reopened in a ruling issued Tuesday.

"He told me he had nothing to do with it and that if he was linked to it, it's perhaps because it was his team [that was involved in the operation]," Garcia said.

Convinced by Lacson's explanations, Garcia believes that the high court's ruling was a "selective application of the law."

But he said this "selective persecution" might eventually work for Lacson, who is aiming to be the opposition's standard-bearer in 2004.

"My journalist instincts tell me that he is not a man who will abet criminals," Garcia said. "I have not seen any hint of the [bad reputation] in him."

A friend of Garcia's, an advertising man, brought him on board Lacson's media machinery.

But Garcia downplayed his role, saying he was only advising Lacson on "how to deal with the media."

"I'm not really in his inner political circle," Garcia said. "I am here to help him understand how the media work and how to communicate his position to the media well."

Still, sources in Lacson's camp say Garcia is now a key person handling his media strategy, together with Estrada men Lito Banayo and Raymond Burgos, and a public relations expert.

"Ping has many foes in the media so he [Garcia] is here to handle media relations," a source said.

According to Garcia, Lacson is not accessible to the media and keeps to himself whenever he is the subject of a controversy.

"He thinks the media has been very hostile to him from the start," Garcia said.

"I told him that's not the right attitude, that if he had the truth this is the way to present it," Garcia said. "I had to show him how the media work, and his accessibility is part of the game."

Garcia said he has to help Lacson get his message across.

"Otherwise, we might lose an opportunity to have a good leader" whose accomplishments in the PNP have been unsurpassed, he said, citing Lacson's campaign against corrupt and pot-bellied cops and the illegal numbers game of "jueteng."

He also said that as PNP chief, Lacson gained enemies when he stopped the alleged "payola" to certain members of the media.

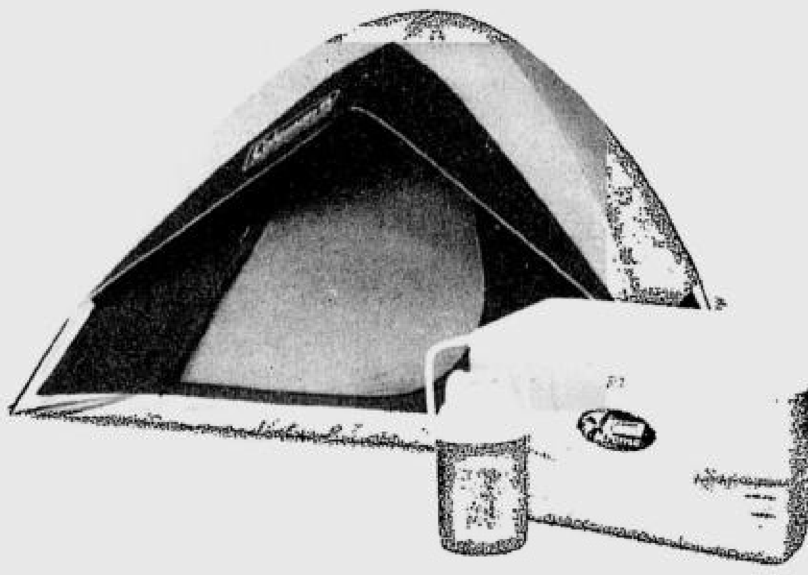
"And I admire his stance on the pork barrel," Garcia said, referring to Lacson's disavowal of his P200-million allocation and his call on fellow lawmakers to do the same.

Garcia said he came to know Lacson during his stint as Times publisher. Once, he said, he personally arranged with the then PNP chief the paper's coverage of a police operation to rescue a kidnapped boy.

"If he had something to hide, perhaps he would not have allowed [our proposed coverage]," Garcia said. "But he readily agreed, and even saw to it that our team knew the rules of engagement so that it would not be in any danger. The operation was successful and the boy was rescued."

Garcia admitted that he had "personal reservations" about Lacson in the past, especially since he was one of the journalists and political personalities allegedly put under surveillance during Estrada's stormy and short-lived term.

But events have shown that Lacson is "his own person," Garcia said.



The sun never sets on these outdoor gear.

Coleman
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

No other gear is reputed to withstand the rough and tough of the great outdoors. UNBELIEVABLY TOUGH!

METRO MANILA: Coleman Store and Service Centers • 2F Expansion Mall, Robinson's Galleria, Tel. No. 632-91-45 • 5th level, Bldg. B, SM Megamall, Tel. No. 634-06-48 • Ground Floor, Park Square 1, Ayala Center, Makati Tel. No. 892-90-19 • 2nd Level, Expansion Mall, Alabang Town Center, Tel. No. 850-78-54 • ACE Hardware • ACY Glassware • Anson's Emporium • Armeo's Merchandise • AST Commercial • Automatic Centre • Beemont • Best Price • Big R • Cash N Carry • Chris Sports • Chuan Hong • Crossings Department Store • Donlyn • Duralex • Easy-lab Metro Mall • Ever Dept Store & Supermarket • Evershine Appliance Traders • Fairmart • Federal Hardware • Friend Anna Merchandising • Friend Multi Sales • Go King • Han's Infinite Tools • Hardware Depot • Hardware Exchange • Home Quest • Hyven Glassware • Kuryente • The Landmark Dept Store • Libbey's • Lin Say Emporium • Makati Supermart Alabang • Makro • Mansmark Houseware • Nazareno General Merchandise • New Palace Glassware • Parañaque Supermarket • Plaza Fair • Price Smart Membership Shopping • Robinson's Department Store • Royal Duty Free Shops • RTC • Rustan's Supermarket/Department Stores • Rustan's Discovery Shop • Sogo Outlets • SM Homeworld • SM Hypermart • SM Supermarket • SM Workshop • STD Star • Sta. Lucia East Supermarket & Department Store • Stan Marketing • Shopwise Department Store • Sin Kian Heng Emporium • South Supermarket • Stan Marketing • Store Shop • Shoppersville • Tip Top Glassware • Toby's • True Value • Unimart • Watching Elect • Wilsons • ANGELES: Saver's Mart • BACOLOD: Gaisano South • Lopue's • Samson Trading • BAGUIO: Golden Crest Marketing • BATAAN: Santol Marketing • BATANGAS: Genasco • Todos Amigos • BICOL: LCC • CABANATUAN: Melano's • Hardware Depot • CAGAYAN DE ORO: Gaisano CDO • Ororama • CEBU: Gaisano, Inc. • Gaisano Metro • Gaisano South • DAGUPAN: City Central Department Store • CSI Department Store • Magic Warehouse Club • On Seng Glassware • DAVAO: Davao Central Warehouse • Golden Bell • JS Gaisano • Lucky Marketing • Metro Plaza Davao • NCCC • Park N Shop • Victoria Plaza • DUMAGUETE: Cang's Inc. • ILOILO: Gaisano South • Iloilo Supermart • SUBIC: Royal Duty Free • TAGBILARAN: Alturo's Department Store • Bohol Quality • TARLAC: Big A Department Store • Saver's Mart • ZAMBOANGA: Metro Plaza Zamboanga • Shoppers Central

Now in its
18th year

THE
PRES. ELPIDIO QUIRINO
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

PRES. ELPIDIO QUIRINO SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS 1986

P 8.5 MILLION WORTH OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP

WHO MAY APPLY

OPEN TO BONAFIDE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH 85% OR ABOVE GENERAL AVERAGE IN 4TH YEAR H.S. OR 85% OR ABOVE FINAL GRADE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS MATH IV, SCIENCE IV, OR ENGLISH IV

WHAT ARE THE GRANTS

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR (1ST PLACER)

GRANTEE GETS A TOTAL OUTLAY OF P238,000 FOR ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP:

- P100,000 TO COVER FIFTY (50) MONTHLY STIPENDS (P2,000 PER MONTH) THROUGH FIVE (5) SCHOOL YEARS FOR BOARD AND LODGING, BOOKS, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.
- P138,000 TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ANY OF THE FIVE OR FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP.

2ND TO 61ST PLACERS

TOTAL OUTLAY OF P8.2 M FOR THE SIXTY (60) SCHOLARS TO COVER TUITION AND OTHER BASIC MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOL FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE IN ANY OF THE FOUR OR FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMS REQUIRING BOARD EXAMS OFFERED AT THE TIP

WHERE TO FILE APPLICATION
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR, TIP
363 P. CASAL ST., QUIAPO, MANILA
OR
938 AURORA BLVD., CUBAO, QUEZON CITY

APPLICANTS SHOULD BRING THEIR FORM 138 AND 2 COPIES OF 2X2 ID PICTURE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2003

WHEN TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION
SCHEDULE OF COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS IN MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH IS SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2003, 9:00 TO 11:00 AM AT TIP MANILA/QC

OTHER ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AND DISCOUNTS

VALEDICTORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 PER SEMESTER FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS.

SALUTATORIANS
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, ATHLETICS) FOR TWO (2) SEMESTERS, PLUS A STIPEND OF P1,000 FOR ONE (1) SEMESTER

3RD TO 10TH RANKING H.S. GRADUATES
FREE TUITION AND BASIC MISCELLANEOUS FEES (REGISTRATION, LIBRARY, MEDICAL AND DENTAL, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

90% or above general average (4th Year H.S.) or 90% or above final grade in Math IV, English IV or Science IV	Free tuition and basic miscellaneous fees (Registration, Library, Medical and Dental, Guidance and Counseling Athletics) for one (1) semester
85% - 89% general average or 85% - 89% final grade in Math IV, English IV, or Science IV	Free tuition fee for one (1) semester
83% - 84% general average or 83% - 84% final grade in Math IV English IV or Science IV	80% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
81% - 82% general average or 81% - 82% final grade in Math IV English IV or Science IV	60% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester
80% general average or 80% final grade in Math IV English IV, or Science IV	50% tuition fee discount for one (1) semester

www.tip.edu.ph
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant [illegible] of academic life

MANILA CAMPUSES
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS

years of Excellence in Engineering Education

Tigers establish record

DETROIT--The Detroit Tigers became the first team to have four pitchers make their major league debuts in the same game Wednesday, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, baseball's statistician. Venezuela's Wilfredo Ledezma, Jeremy Bonderman, Chris Spurling and Matt Roney all appeared in their first big league game for the Tigers, who lost 8-1 to the Minnesota Twins. AP

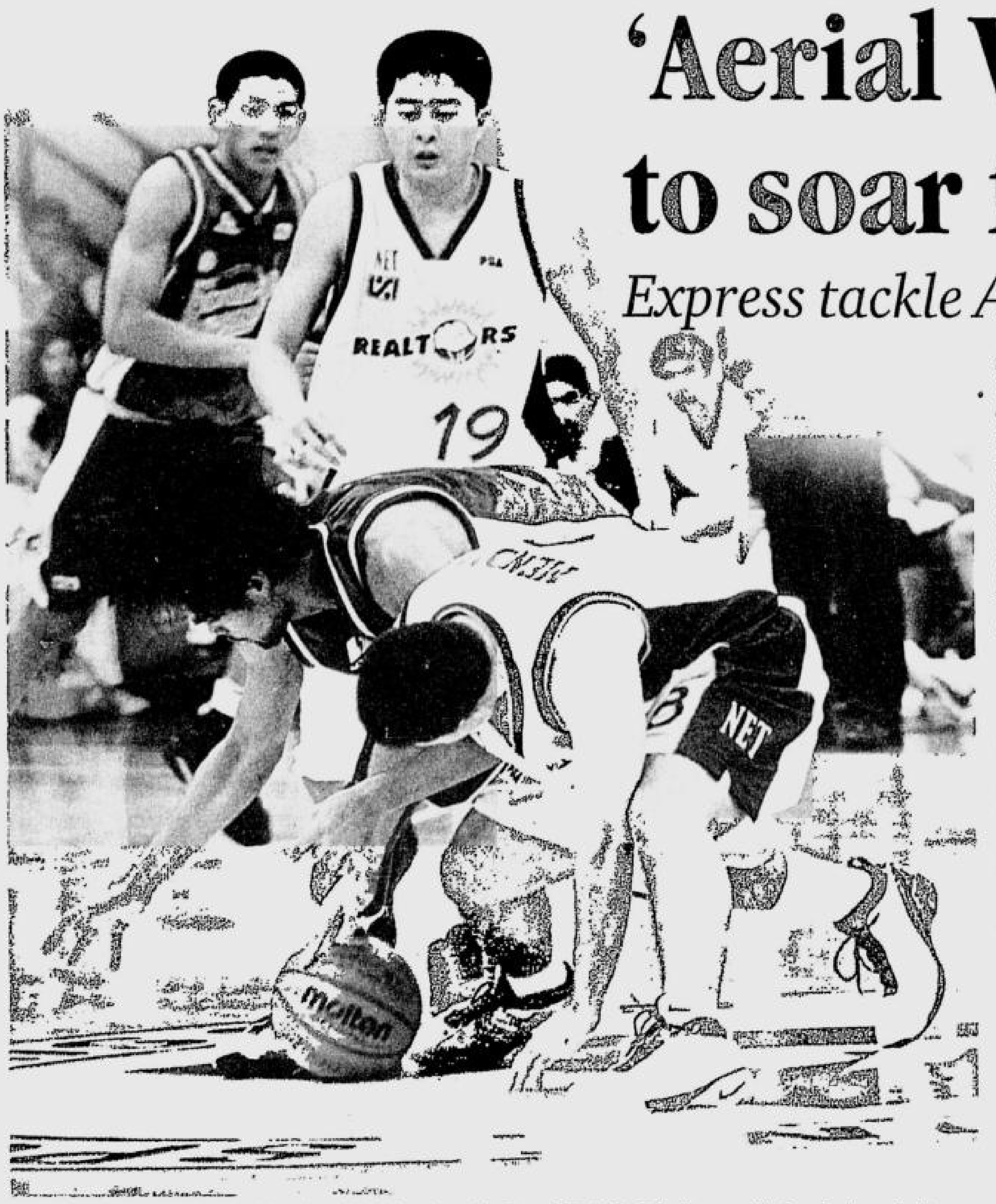
SPORTS
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

SPORTSTV Compiled by L. Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA – Greatest Games, 8:30 a.m., Lakers vs Mavericks, 10:30 a.m. (r – 9 p.m.), Solar Sports, Jazz vs Blazers, 11 a.m. (r – 9 p.m.), Inside Stuff, 8:30 p.m., Star Sports
GOLF: LPGA Welch's / - Fry Championship, 12 noon (r), ESPN

'Aerial Voyager' aims to soar for FedEx anew

Express tackle Aces; Thunder, Beermen collide



STA. LUCIA Realty's Paolo Mendoza (right) and rookie Ronald Tubid of Shell scramble for the loose ball as Kenneth Duremdes (19) and Eddie Laure look on during their PBA game Wednesday night. The Realtors won, 79-69.
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

STANDINGS	W	L
Group A		
Alaska	5	3
San Miguel	4	3
FedEx	4	3
Sta. Lucia	4	4
Purefoods	3	5
Group B		
Red Bull	6	1
Coca-Cola	4	3
Ginebra	3	4
Talk N Text	3	4
Shell	1	7

MENESES

GAMES TODAY *(Philsports Arena)*
5 p.m.-FedEx vs Alaska
7:30 p.m.-Red Bull vs San Miguel Beer

By June Navarro

SO FAR, Vergel Meneses seems to be the barometer of how Federal Express performs in the Samsung-PBA All Filipino Cup.

When the "Aerial Voyager" dishes off an explosive performance, the Express come out winning. If he doesn't, their opponents steal the game away.

The playing condition of Meneses will again be a decisive factor for the Express when they face the Alaska Aces today at the Philsports Arena.

Statistics of the high-flying Meneses in the past seven games will confirm this.

The four-game streak of the Express (4-3) saw the 6-foot-3 Meneses scoring an average of 21 points a game while posting only a total of 15 points on all of FedEx's setbacks.

During the Express defeat against Barangay Ginebra that snapped their winning run over the weekend, Meneses was held to eight points on a 2-for-14 shooting and three turnovers in 29 minutes of action.

But mind you, the Aces have an axe to grind against the Express on their 5 p.m. meeting. The Express were responsible for breaking the Aces' 4-0 record with a stunning 90-86 victory almost a month ago.

The Aces, who lost another two games after that Express debacle, assumed the lead in Group A with a 5-3 slate after beating defending champion Coca-Cola, 86-77.

Mike Cortez, the only rookie leading his team in scoring with 14.8 points per game, is itching to get back at the Express along with Aces' starters Don Allado, Ali Peek, John Arigo and Rob Duat.

In the other game at 7:30 p.m., Batang Red Bull tries to extend its win streak to six games as they clash against San Miguel Beer, whose own four-game run got halted by an 88-85 defeat opposite sister squad Purefoods.

Interestingly, the only setback of the Thunder (6-1) came at the hands of the Beermen, a 93-90 squeaker done at the same venue on March 5. The Beermen are tied with the Express at Group A while the Thunder are way ahead in Group B.

At that time, San Miguel's Dorian Pena was serving the second of a two-game suspension for marijuana use, leaving Nic Belasco to defend the frontline of the Beermen all by his lonesome.

Pena's presence in the shaded area will now make Red Bull's Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi, Homer Se and rookie Enrico Villanueva work harder, harder than the Thunder's past five games.

Stronger PBA-fan affinity urged

By June Navarro

AS THE Philippine Basketball Association celebrates its 29th anniversary on April 9, Commissioner Noli Eala vowed to strengthen the league's ties with its fans in an effort to remain as the nation's favorite sporting spectacle.

"With the PBA getting a lot of support from private companies and the players commanding a big following, it's just a matter of bringing the product closer to the people," said Eala.

With Eala at the helm of the first play-for-pay league in Asia, the PBA has launched drastic efforts to reinvent itself and be attuned to the changing times.

League rules have also been altered for the PBA to keep in step with the innovations of the sport in the international cage scene.

"I think the PBA is a living entity in such a way that it continues to grow. And as it grows, change will be a vital part of that survival," said Eala.

From its early years, when teams numbered six to eight, the PBA has a fixed membership of 10 ballclubs, all aiming to be the best.

Draftings, salary-cap rules, free-agent rules and the like have slowly dismantled dynasties and made parity a by-word in the league.

Hurting Hotdogs pull thru

By June Navarro

ALVIN Patrimonio had a pulled groin, Chris Cantonjos hurt his left calf muscle and Rey Evangelista limped off the court, his right foot inflamed and heavier than the other.

Yet, it didn't stop the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs from scoring their first back-to-back victories of the season at the expense of the Talk N Text Phone Pals on Wednesday night.

"Although we were hurting, the players rose to the challenge and followed the game plan to the letter," said the youthful Gregorio after the Hotdogs edged the Phone Pals, 85-83, to pick up their third win in eight games.

Kerby Raymundo drilled an 18-footer with less than five seconds to go before coming up with a monster block on a potential game-clinching triple by Talk N Text's Noli Locsin as the Hotdogs preserved the win.

Gregorio said the game plan was to stop Asi Taulava at all cost.

Though Taulava managed to escape with 22 points, Gregorio said the Hotdogs did a fine job frustrating and limiting the offensive options of the 6-foot-9 Filipino-Tongan.

"Our defense was centered on Asi. It clicked because Taulava failed to get the ball from the spots that he wanted," added Gregorio. "As a result, the offense of Talk N Text suddenly collapsed."

As Patrimonio, Cantonjos and Evangelista, whose foot will undergo an MRI to determine the cause of the pain, watched at the sidelines, Rodney Santos and Gilbert Demape gladly took over and delivered for the Hotdogs.

"We got our confidence back and it will inspire us to win a third straight when we meet Barangay Ginebra over the weekend," said Gregorio.

This time, Gregorio said, the Hotdogs will map out a battle plan to stop Eric Menk, the Kings' most lethal arsenal at the frontline.

SUERTRES (In exact order) **SIX DIGIT**
5 0 4 3 9 6 6 3 4

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
5 29 30 35 38 45

LANCER TENNIS

Kiwi qualifier ousts top-seeded Korean

By Roy Luarca

LEG cramps and the hot weather proved too much to bear for top seed Chris Kwon yesterday as he bowed to qualifier William Ward of New Zealand in the third round of the 14th Mitsubishi Lancer International Junior Tennis Championships.

Kwon, a Korean-American ranked No. 4 in the world, felt throbbing pain on his legs near the end of the second set. He played on but the scorching heat at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center compounded his misery as he vomited in the third set before retiring, 5-7, 6-3, 4-2.

"It's very hot today," said Kwon, who fired four of his six aces in the first set. "I also didn't get enough rest and had little time to practice."

Ahead, 3-0, in the second set, Kwon suddenly felt his legs stiffen, finding it difficult to catch Ward's placement shots.

The 17-year-old Ward, ranked No. 258 in the ITF juniors, pounced on the opportunity, attacking the net relentlessly to put the pressure on Kwon.

"Kwon played solid tennis in the first set so I attacked more and hit the ball harder in the second set," said Ward, a former member of the World Youth Cup team." He couldn't keep up with me so I just run him around in the third set."

The Auckland-based Ward, owner of two doubles titles back home, is slated to meet No. 10 Karan Rastogi of India, who ousted No. 8 Eric Scherer of Germany, 7-6 (4), 6-4, in the quarterfinals.

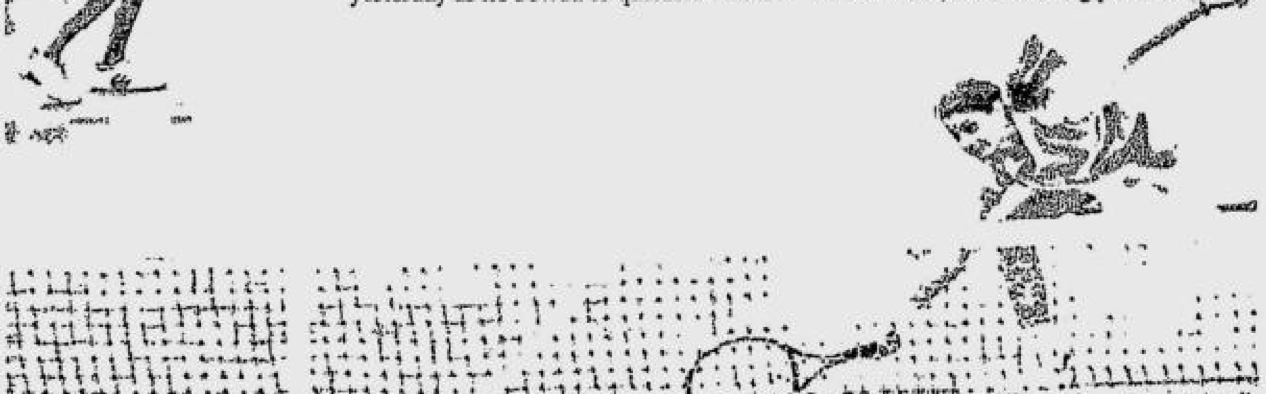
Ward said he hasn't seen Rastogi play, but is confident of winning because he's in better condition than last week, when food poisoning forced him to default his second round match in the Amata Cup in Pattaya, Thailand.

Upsets abound as Jacob Melskens of Denmark and unseeded Tom Rushby of Germany also advanced.

The 14th-ranked Melkens subdued third seed and world No. 25 American Scott Oudsema, 6-4, 7-6 (4), to forge a duel against No. 6 Australian Adam Feeney, a 6-3, 7-5 victor over No. 9 Briton Jack Baker.

Rushby shocked fifth seed Somdev Dev Varman of India, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, to advance against second seed and world No. 17 Taiwanese Liu Thi-Wei, who dumped Korean Kim Sun-Yong, 6-2, 6-1.

Korean Hyun-Joon Suk, the fourth seed, and No. 7 Briton Jamie Baker will part ways in the quarterfinals. Suk bested No. 15 Jimmy Schneider of the Netherlands, 7-5, 6-4, while Baker stopped No. 12 Tore Deleuran-Skjold of Denmark, 4-6, 6-4, 3-0 (ret.)



AUSSIES Natalie Tanevska and Stefanie Rath in action against the Chinese pair of Du Rui and Chen Yan Chong. The Chinese won, 6-3, 6-3.
JESS YUSON

RP Cuppers seek revenge

By Roy Luarca

TWICE, the Filipinos have bowed to the Kazakhs in Davis Cup action. Will they let themselves be shamed again in their home turf?

Part of the answer will be known when the Philippines and Kazakhstan begin their relegation tie today, with both countries trying to stay in Group II of the Asia-Oceania Zone Davis Cup competition at the Philippine Columbian Association indoor shell-clay courts.

The Filipinos are hoping that the hot weather, their homecourt advantage and the partisan crowd would help them in their bid to exact revenge over the Kazakhs, who beat them, 4-1, in the first round of Zone II competitions last year in Kazakhstan and 2-0, in the final of their 2001 Group II match-up at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

Top-ranked Filipino Joseph Victorino and No. 2 Joseph Arcilla battle the Kazakhs at 1 p.m., with the 19-year-old Victorino facing Kazakhstan's No. 2 Anton Tsymbalov in the opener and Arcilla tackling world No. 810 Alexey Kedriouk in the second singles match of the best-of-five matches.

The pivotal doubles tiff, pitting Arcilla and Michael Mora III against Kedriouk and Tsymbalov is set at 1 p.m. tomorrow after which the tie ends with the reverse singles on Sunday.

The Kazakhs claimed they are not bothered by the hot weather and said the draw, held yesterday at the Midtown Hotel with Congressman Monico Puentevella and neutral referee David Smith from New Zealand in attendance, favored their three-man team.

"It was a good draw for both teams. We are ready for this tie and no team got the edge after the draw, said Kazakhstan playing captain Ivan Tysmbalov.

Filipino non-playing captain Johnny Jose believes that his wards are better prepared this time and are more determined to stop the Kazakh's domination.

If they fail to do so, the Filipinos would be relegated once more to Group III, where they languished in 2001.

The Filipinos dropped into the relegation tie after absorbing a 5-0 licking from the Chinese in the first round, where the Kazakhs also bowed to the Taiwanese, 4-1.

Ormoc upset

ORMOC—Harold Trinidad of Maasin stunned highly fancied Jeedree Tan 6-1, 6-2 to gain a semifinal seat in the boys' 16-under division in the 2003 Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop here at the Ormoc-Midtown Tennis Club.

Trinidad thus set up a semis encounter with Cebu's Julian Lagman, a 7-6, 6-2 winner past brother Julius Lagman; while Christopher Canezo ousted Joselito Lapid 6-3, 6-3 to meet Lawrence Borres, who downed Jaggy Simblante 6-2, 6-3 in the Milo netfest organized by CTW and supported by Wilson balls, Adidas and Sports Kids with a Group 3 sanction from the Philta.

John O too much for Nutri-licious 5

GAMES TOMORROW *(San Juan Gym)*
2 p.m.—Viva vs John O
4 p.m.—Nutri-licious vs LBC

By Dennis U. Eroa

SO DEVASTATING was John O that coach Dong Vergeire enjoyed the luxury of fielding all his 15 players.

Yesterday, Vergeire's charges bounced back after getting spanked by ICTSI-Archers last Sunday with a 103-84 victory over Nutri-licious in the Sunkist-PBL Unity Cup at the Pasig Sports Center.

Samigue Eman, John O's 6-foot-9 recruit, finally saw action to the thunderous applause of the sizeable crowd. The Davaoeño giant went scoreless, attempting just once from the field in seven minutes of action but his performance hardly mattered.

Former UST gunner Emerson Oreta, Mark Macapagal, Ricky Calimag and Ranidel de Ocampo all finished in double figures as John O never looked back from a 53-41 halftime lead.

"We really wanted to win this one. Everybody clicked," said John O's youthful manager Carlos Sario. John O bowed to ICTSI-Archers, 71-62, at the San Juan Gym.

Scores:

JOHN O 103—Oreta 20, Calimag 18, De Ocampo 15, Macapagal 14, Cruz 10, Melencio 6, Madrid 5, Ortega 4, Vergara 4, Kiram 3, McCoy 2, Laygo 2, Menor 0, Villamin 0, Eman 0.

NUTRI-LICIOUS 84—Omolon 20, Junio 19, Sotto 15, Gonzales 11, Lanete 10, Feliciano 4, Cordero 3, Valdez 2, Federiso 0, Vanio 0, Rivera 0.

Quarters: 29-24, 53-41, 77-60, 103-84.

Sunkist 2003 Youth Basketball Championship YBC

Team Standings as of April 4

Semis: April 10, Thursday - 10am to 7pm
Finals: April 11, Friday - 1pm to 6pm

Division A	W	L	Division B	W	L
San Beda College	X	X	Faith Academy	X	X
Ateneo de Davao	1	0	Adamson University	X	X
University of Sto. Tomas	0	1	San Sebastian College	X	X
			Sacred Heart of Jesus Montessori School	0	1
Division C			Division D		
UP Integrated School	1	0	Ateneo de Manila	X	X
Xavier School	1	0	Colegio de San Juan de Letran	1	0
University of San Jose-Recoletos	0	1	Pampanga High School	0	1
MAPUA Institute of Technology	0	1	University of St. La Salle Bacolod	X	X

Hosted by the City of Makati
Co-sponsored by Air Philippines

Smell

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

PAINTERS have eyes, musicians ears and athletes "smell." If cooks have taste distinctly different from us, that's a given. One can't be a cook if his taste buds are as flawed as a smoker's.

Boxers know immediately if they smell either defeat or victory. Golfers, too. Ali knew if he'd win or not. Tiger knows if a tournament is his or not.

It's not so in basketball. In this game, one player cannot do it alone. Meaning, he cannot win it by his lonesome, lose it by his lonesome. Team sport demands that virtually the majority of those involved in a game will either will to lose it or win it.

Let's take the NBA as a case in point.

Michael Jordan has been dying to win it for his Washington Wizards. To a certain extent, the world's greatest cager has been successful. But then, sadly, his efforts seem to fall short of his goal: pushing Washington to the 8-team playoffs. And that's because despite his still intact skills at age 40, his teammates are simply no match against the opposition. Not because they lack the desire to win but mainly because their skills are not as great as Jordan's. In his Chicago days, Jordan had Dennis Rodman and Scottie Pippen as his main back-up. Rodman and Pippen are now among the NBA's all-time best. Can you cite just one Wizard who can give Jordan the support the way Rodman and Pippen did to His Airness in the '90s? I bet you there's none.

It's different in golf.

In golf, there's only the golfer against the rest of the field. He makes a major mistake, or a series of mistakes as in Tiger Woods making multiple trips to the pond in the recent PGA event, that's it. The tournament is lost. He makes good shots 99.99 percent of the way, he's sure of victory. Almost.

It's the same process in boxing, or any other individual sport for that matter.

A boxer is up against a lone opponent and, compared to golf, it can be said that that's an easier job than a golfer's. A golfer has the entire field to contend with, the boxer has only his fellow boxer to deal with in trying to win-or lose-his fight. It is in this light that it's really harder for a golfer than a boxer to smell either victory or defeat. The golfer has the vaguest idea of how his other opponents scattered in various flights are performing. The boxer has only the person in front of him separating him from victory-or defeat.

Like the painter or the musician, or even the cook, the athlete has to have it (the element of smell, remember?) or he/she is better off planting camote in the Island of Kangkong.

Lunas to defend crown vs Gorres

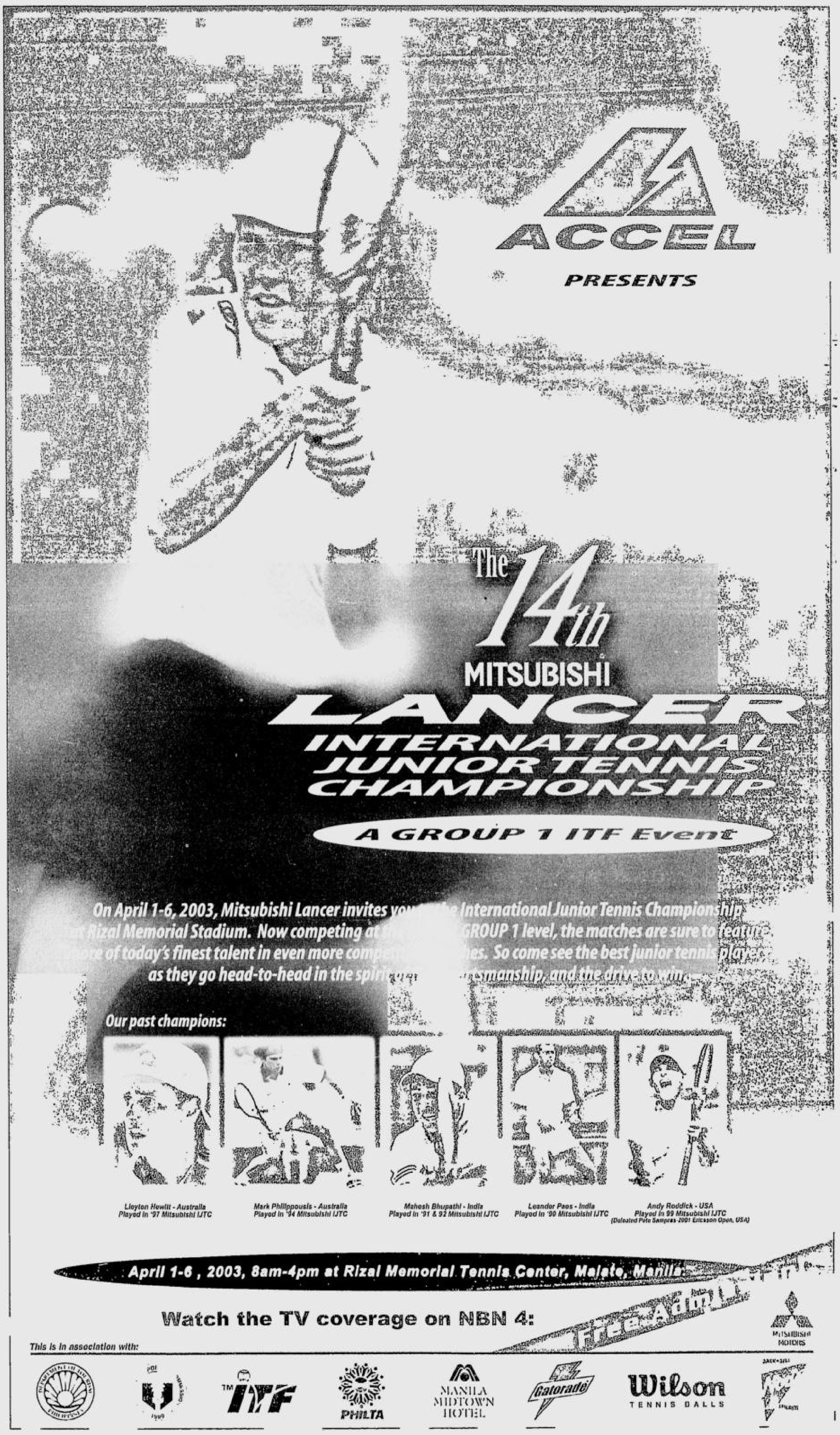
THE GAMES and Amusements Board yesterday mandated Rolly Lunas to defend his Philippine flyweight crown against Z Gorres on June 1.

If any consolation to Lunas, GAB chair Eduardo Villanueva raised his purse to at least P108,000 if the promotion coinciding with Makati Day celebrations pushes through at the Makati Coliseum.

Lunas was supposed to figure in a non-title bout on April 27 in Nagoya where he was supposed to receive $2,000 (P108,000).

Lawyer Rudy Salud, one of Gorres' handlers, urged the GAB to strip Lunas of his crown if he chooses to fight in Japan instead.

Roy Luarca



ACCEL PRESENTS

The 14th MITSUBISHI LANCER INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

A GROUP 1 ITF Event

On April 1-6, 2003, Mitsubishi Lancer invites you [illegible] the International Junior Tennis Championship at Rizal Memorial Stadium. Now competing at [illegible] GROUP 1 level, the matches are sure to feature [illegible] of today's finest talent in even more comp[illegible] [illegible]hes. So come see the best junior tennis playe[illegible] as they go head-to-head in the spiri[illegible] [illegible]smanship, and the drive to win.

Our past champions:

Lleyton Hewitt - Australia
Played in '97 Mitsubishi IJTC

Mark Philippousis - Australia
Played in '94 Mitsubishi IJTC

Mahesh Bhupathi - India
Played in '91 & 92 Mitsubishi IJTC

Leander Paes - India
Played in '90 Mitsubishi IJTC

Andy Roddick - USA
Played in 99 Mitsubishi IJTC
(Defeated Pete Sampras-2001 Ericsson Open, USA)

April 1-6 , 2003, 8am-4pm at Rizal Memorial Tennis Center, Malate, Manila

Free Admission

Watch the TV coverage on NBN 4:

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

This is in association with:

ITF PHILTA MANILA MIDTOWN HOTEL Gatorade Wilson TENNIS BALLS

FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE

Youth Games lure 8,000 bets

By Roy Luarca

A FIESTA-LIKE atmosphere will pervade during the opening of the 2nd Manila Youth Games on Sunday at the Rizal Memorial Track and Field Stadium.

Dances, songs, bands, ati-atihan groups and other festive activities will spice up the ceremonies involving the city's 897 barangays, six congressional districts and more than 30 public and private schools.

Philippine Sports Commission Chair Eric Buhain will be the guest of honor in the ceremonies to be attended by City Hall luminaries led by Mayor Lito Atienza.

The week-long event will be participated in by about 8,000 entries who are 15 years old and younger.

Buhain praised the organizing Manila Sports Council (Masco) chaired by Arnold "Ali" Atienza for contributing to the national grassroots sports development.

"I doff my hat to the city of Manila for putting emphasis on the role of sports and the youth in nation building. The MY Games is one program that the PSC appreciates very much because it jives with our own programs," said Buhain.

The PSC has provided assistance to the city of Manila, including the use of various facilities at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex for the event. Other supporters are Pagcor, WG&A Superferry, Globe Telecoms, Coca Cola, Power Aid/Viva Mineral Water, Pressworks, Victor Sports and the Philippine Navy.

Mayor Atienza said sports is an important vehicle in the molding of young minds, particularly in the effort to steer them away from society's menaces.

"That's why our City Hall is putting emphasis on sports development to guide our youth toward becoming assets of society," said Atienza, who will declare the Games open.

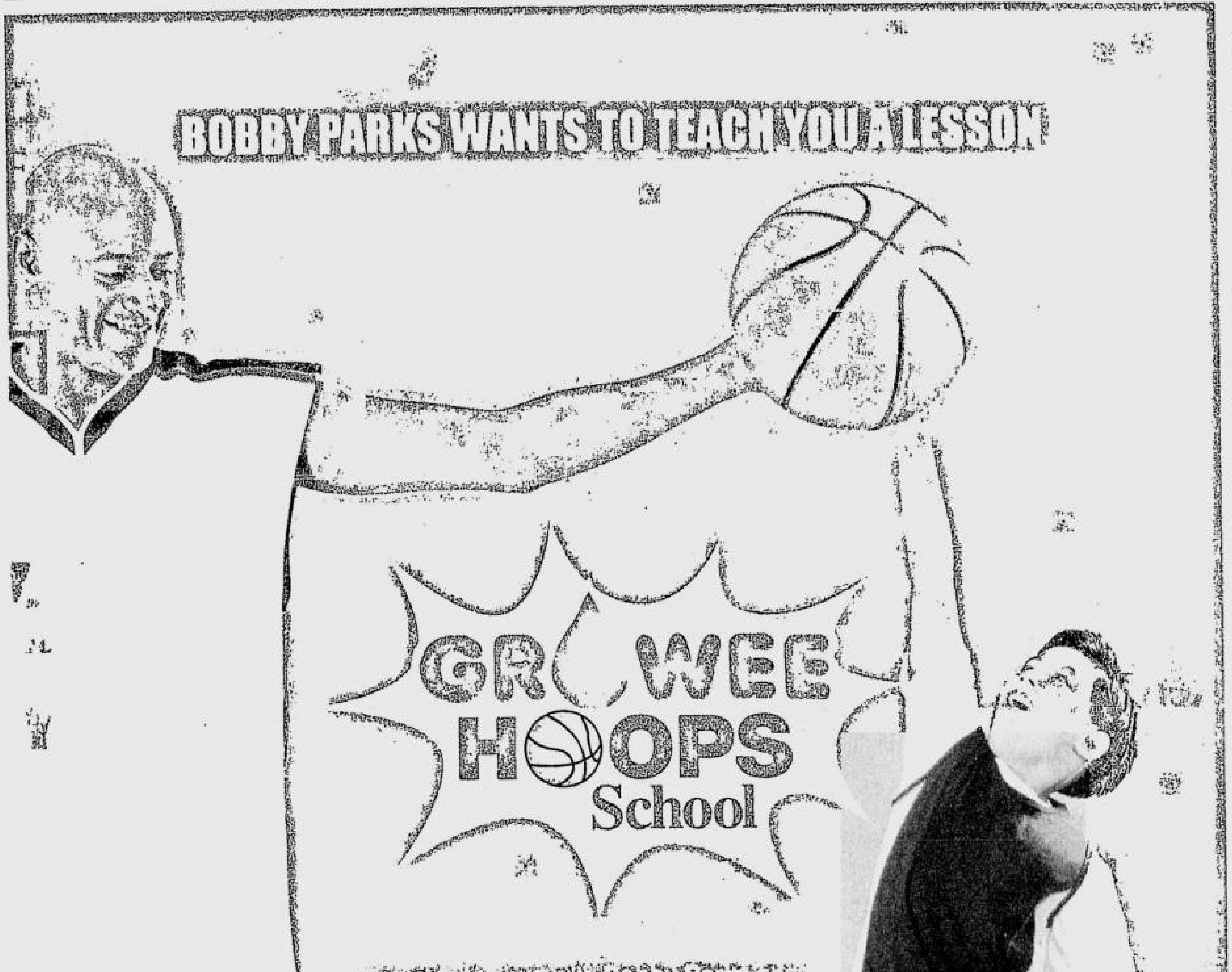
Coinciding with the opening rites, the PSC and Masco will launch the PSC-Manila Talent Identification Program, which will spearhead the nationwide talent ID to be implemented by the PSC.

Nat'l wushu May 16-18

THE 2003 National Wushu Championships set from May 16-18 at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium will be a basis for the selection of members of the national wushu team competing in the 22nd Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam this December.

Wushu Federation of the Philippines (WFP) honorary chair Francis Chan said that the selection of national team members shall be based on the performance of participants in the national championships.

IOC AWARD
President Arroyo and former sports commissioner and new tourism director Cynthia Carrion display the prestigious International Olympic Committee (IOC) trophy for Asia's best in women and sports. Carrion received the award for the Philippines from the IOC main headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland recently.


BOBBY PARKS WANTS TO TEACH YOU A LESSON
GROWEE HOOPS School
[illegible]
GROWEE Hoops School [illegible]
[illegible]
Participants [illegible]
GROWEE [illegible] School
[illegible]
[illegible]
GROWEE [illegible]
[illegible]
For schedules at different venues in Metro Manila
call 687-4364, 687-2025, 688-018
HELP IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S OVERALL GROWTH. GIVE HIM GROWEE DAILY
GROWEE
YOUR CHILD'S GROWTH VITAMINS
PEDIATRICA, INC.
WITH ACE GROWTH FACTOR

Carlos first to break par in Jr Interclub

By Jong Arcano

RANGED against the big kids and even the roly-poly, Jobim Carlos showed what a tiny kid with a good swing can do when he submitted the first sub-par round in the Philippine Airlines Junior Interclub golf championships at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club course.

The 10-year-old Carlos got his bid to match last season's unbeaten summer run with a solid one-under-par 67 on three birdies and two bogeys to grab the boys Class D (9-10 years) leadership and lead Aguinaldo "A" to the top in the team competition.

The Holy Infant Academy grade-schooler knocked in birdies on the seventh, 14th and 17th against bogeys on the sixth and 12th in the 54-hole tourney kicking of the Jungolf Summer Circuit which drew more than 200 entries in two venues including the Class A and Class B battles at Manila Golf.

Holen Juan Superal, one of three siblings campaigning in the circuit, stayed close on the heels of Carlos with an even 68.

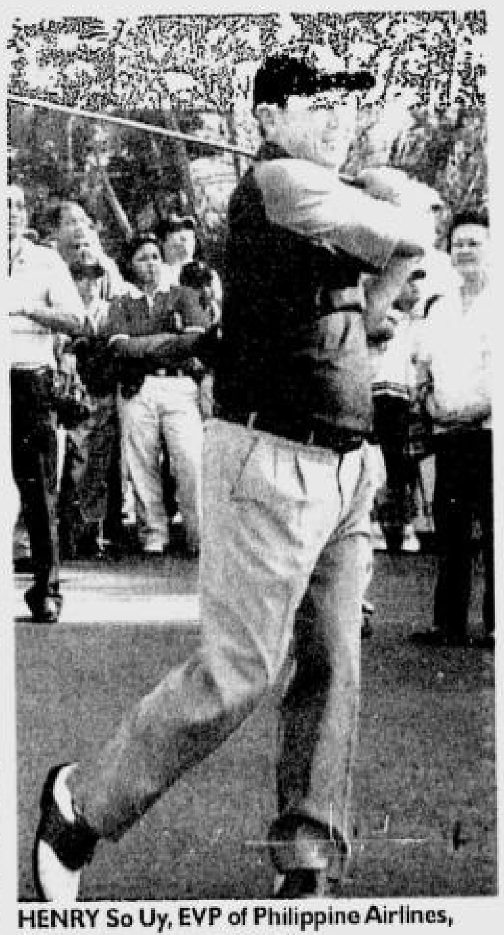
Carlos' big round enabled Aguinaldo "A" to post a four-stroke lead over the Villamor squad led by Superal with a 225 total. Kagitingan was running third at 241 and Aguinaldo "B" fourth at 340.

Over at Manila Golf, Manila Southwoods held a precarious one-shot margin over Riviera and a four-point spread over Aguinaldo after Round 1.

Andrea Legaspi, meanwhile, was up by one over reigning world champion Dottie Ardina in girls Class D after a 77, Jik Jik Abdon and Mia Piccio paced Class C (11-12) and JP de Claro and Princess Superal showed the way in Class E (8-under).

Abdon scored a 74 to go one up on Benjamin Clark Ekegren, Piccio moved four ahead of Debbie de Villa with her 79, Princess Superal exploited the absence of the big guns in her class to lead Marvie Monsalve by 12 following an 88 while de Claro was neck-and-neck with the fancied JR Gonzales, 78-80.

The other sponsors of the summer circuit are Bellevue Manila, Exito Mfg. Corp., Global Lighting, Third World Eximport, HBW Ent., MCCI Corp., BF Technology, Samsung and Air Liquide Phils.



HENRY So Uy, EVP of Philippine Airlines, hitting the ceremonial ball.

Blazers make it as Rockets lose

MILWAUKEE—Sam Cassell scored 20 points as Milwaukee erased a 13-point deficit to beat Houston 106-99 in the NBA Wednesday night.

The victory moved Milwaukee (37-39) two games ahead of Washington in the race for the Eastern Conference eighth playoff spot. The Wizards lost to Sacramento.

Houston's loss meant Portland clinched a Western Conference playoff berth. Houston (38-37) has lost four of its past five games and is 1 1/2 games behind Phoenix for the West's eighth playoff spot.

Gary Payton and Toni Kukoc each scored 18 points for Milwaukee, which scored 20 points on 22 Houston turnovers.

Chinese rookie Yao Ming had 15 points and six rebounds in 33 minutes for Houston.

Spurs 105, Grizzlies 87

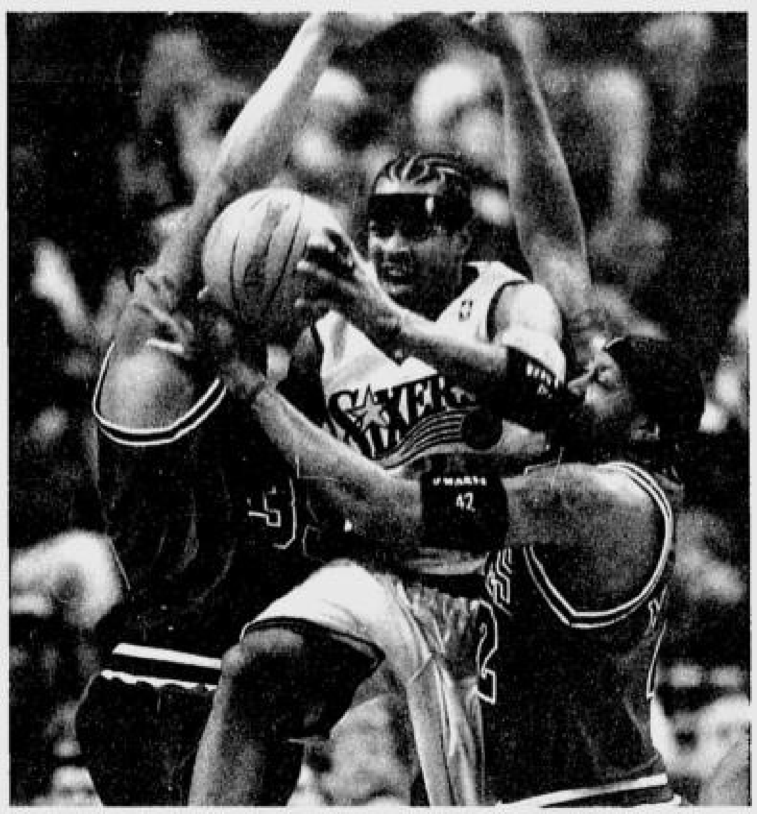
In Memphis, Tennessee, Tim Duncan scored 33 points and grabbed 19 rebounds to lead San Antonio's inside dominance of Memphis.

Duncan connected on 13 of 16 shots from the field as the Spurs won their seventh straight game. Memphis, meanwhile, is in a tailspin, losing seven of its last eight.

Lorenzen Wright led Memphis with 24 points.

Hornets 106, Nets 97

In New Orleans, Jamal Mashburn scored 24 points, Baron Davis and George Lynch each added 19 as the Hornets beat New Jersey to clinch their fourth straight playoff spot.



ALLEN Iverson (center) drives between Chicago Bulls' Lonny Baxter (35) and Donyell Marshall (42) in the first half Wednesday. The Sixers won, 108-101. AP

NBA RESULTS

Boston 90, Miami 62; Philadelphia 108, Chicago 101; Toronto 89, Detroit 78; Minnesota 91, Seattle 86; Indiana 103, Cleveland 82; Milwaukee 106, Houston 99; San Antonio 105, Memphis 87; New Orleans 106, New Jersey 97; Sacramento 105, Washington 99; New York 83, Denver 75

KUBOTA Wheel Excavator
FOR SALE
Slightly used,
Direct import
0.1 cm. Meter Bucket
Four Wheel Drive
Breaker Option
P 350,000.00
Also Available: TCM 50B, 75B payloader, Engine Welders Bobcat, walk behind rollers, generators, air compressors
Northstar Motors: Tel. 3306815 & 4552870

SPORTSWATCH

Archery meet set

THE General Council meeting of the National Archery Association of the Philippines (NAAP) will be held at 3 p.m. tomorrow at the Orchid Garden Suites along P. Ocampo Sr. St. to elect its new set of officers for the next four years. Vying for the presidency which used to be held by the late Ramon A. Lim are Gen. Jose Marlowe S. Pedregosa and lawyer Ruperto T. Sampoleo. Nominees for the NAAP board of directors are Cesar L. Ang Jr., Joel T. Cruz, Dionisio R. Flores, Ms Ligaya P. Manalang, Virgilio Mojica, Dr. Cristina Reyes, Reuben M. Yambot, Dr. Lenora Fe Brawner, Architect Nestor de Castro, Renato Bartolome, Dr. Juan Ma. Pablo Nanagas, Jose Ray Deleste and Siegfredo L. Velasquez.Ang, Cruz, Flores, Manalang, Mojica, Reyes and Yambot are incumbent board members.

4-cock tilt tonight

ANOTHER explosive 4-cock derby with a winner's prize of P300,000 fires off tonight at the Pasay City Cockpit. A total of 54 fights will be presented by sponsors Sagupaan Hammer Dewormer, Sagupaan Mite Free Shampoo and Sagupaan B—50 Forten (anti-stress).The one-day battle will be hosted by Pasay Cockpit Cockers Association (PCCA). According to pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano, slated next Friday, April 11 is another 4-cocker with businessman Jaime Boy Luz as host. For inquiries, contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.

'Battle of Giants'

THE "Battle of the Giants Play for Pot 7—Cock One Day Derby" gets going tomorrow (April 5) at Mandaluyong Coliseum. Among those fielding their entries are former ambassador Danding Cojuangco, *sabong* idol Patrick Antonio, Gov. Antonio Kho, Mayor Boyet Joson of Nueva Ecija, Matt Mendoza/ Solid North, B. Pineda, Mayor Eddie Alarilla, Jessie Viceo, OPMI president Vic Yu, Eric dela Rosa, Wacky Salud of Cebu and Engr. Sonny Lagon, among others. "It will be a slam bang confrontation from start to finish. There are more than 80 fights, so derby starts at 3 p.m.," said OPMI president Vic Yu.

jr netfest on tap

REGISTRATION is now ongoing for the First City Sunrise Junior Tennis Championships slated April 13-16 at the Sunrise courts in Maliwalu, Tarlac City. Players who wish to join the Group 3 event may contact Philta Region 3 RVP Billy Tanedo (045-982-3754 and 045-9827366), Dan Ilagan (045-9823869) and Philta office (5256424). Deadline of entry is on April 11 at 5 p.m. (Philta) and April 12 and 2 p.m. (Sunrise Tennis Club). The tournament is organized by Hernan Ilagan and supported by Hi-Tech Cable, Inc., Accel Sportswear and Dunlop balls.

'A-Rod' sparkles

ANAHEIM, California--Alex Rodriguez became the youngest player to hit 300 homers, but the Anaheim Angels beat the Rangers 11-5 Wednesday behind home runs from Troy Glaus, Brad Fullmer and Darin Erstad. Rodriguez, 27 years, 249 days old, hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning off Ramon Ortiz (1-0), his second of the season. The fastest to 300 had been Hall of Famer Jimmie Foxx at 27 years, 328 days. Foxx finished his career with 534 homers. *AP*

Baseball results

American League--Kansas City 5, Chi White Sox 4; Anaheim 11, Texas 5; Cleveland 4, Baltimore 2; Minnesota 8, Detoroit 1; NY Yankees 9, Toronto 7; Boston 7, Tampa Bay 5; Oakland 8, Seattle 3. National League-- Montreal 3, Atlanta 0; Philadelphia 8, Florida 2; Pittsburgh 7, Cincinnati 4; NY Mets 4, Chi Cubs 1; Houston 8, Colorado 7; St. Louis 7, Milwaukee 0; Los Angeles 5, Arizona 0; San Francisco 5, San Diego 3. *AFP*

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO PARK BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Little Sam 2. Peek A Boo 3. Supreme Prospect
Race 2--1. Portal Dancer 2. Dedicated 3. Aringkingking
Race 3--1. Noble House 2. Strong Lady
Race 4--1. Doctor Steve 2. High Typhoon 3. Private Pedro
Race 5--1. Good Partner 2. Miss Monroe/Ginger Spice 3. Armee's Hope
Race 6--1. Jamie's Princess 2. Run Doding Fly 3. Carlo's Charm 4. Trick Shot
Race 7--1. Exchange Deal 2. La Signorina 3. Miracle Toffee 4. Super Dancer 5. More Love 6. Traktora

Cervantes, pals prevail

THE QUARTET of Pete Cervantes, Isa Velayo, Buddy Velayo and Gilbert Martirez outplayed 70 other teams, out of a record-breaking 282 participants, to top Group 1 of the March monthly tournament at the Legends and Masters courses of Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club.

Using the Scramble as format of play, Cervantes and (Isa) Velayo (at the Legends) and Martirez and (Buddy) Velayo (at the Masters) scored a combined net team total of 134.

Placing second is the quartet of Wan Sup Park, Soong Jan, Il Soo Bae and Soo Hwan Oh with 136 in the 18-hole event supported by hole-in-one sponsors Mitsubishi Motors, Northwest Airlines, Royal Caribbean International--Baron Travel Corp., Thai Airways and Wilson Sports.

"We would like to thank the general membership and employees of the club, as well as our sponsors, for making this tournament a huge success especially in terms of the number of participants who joined," said Manila Southwoods sports and games chair Freddie Mendoza, referring to the 282 players.

Nobody won the hole-in-one prizes worth P1.5 million.

Rener-Judith pair wins anew

RENER Mercado and Judith Anne Melencio sparkled anew after topping the Standard and Latin American junior disciplines of the recent 4th Quarterly Ranking and Competitions under the auspices of the Dance Sport Council of the Philippines (DSCP) at the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu.

Cited recently by the Philippine Sportswriters Association together with the DSCP headed by Becky Garcia for outstanding achievements in 2002, the youthful, multi-titled pair of Mercado, 12 and Melencio, 12 led the other two gold medal winners, namely John Erolle Melencio-Dearlie Gerodias (Grade A and Youth, Latin) and Doraldy Caballero and Janice Abanilla (Grade D and E, Latin).

The other winners were: Standard discipline—Rico Rosima and Faye Salvador (Grade A), Joel Ocsena and Linda Lagdameo (Grade B), Richard Cania and Liezel Gomez (Grade C), Joel Madera and Anabelle Madera (Grade D), Leodegario Merante Jr. and Maricris Hermosa (Grade E) and Benny Lao and Geraldine Darvine (Special event 2).

PRO GOLF
More than just a golf store.
ANNUAL GOLF SUMMER SALE!
CHECK OUT PRO GOLF FOR THE HOTTEST DEALS OF THE SUMMER!
Pro Golf Shangri-la
Tel Nos.: 635-7943-44
Fax No.: 635-7944
E-mail: shangrila@teamprogolf.com
sales@teamprogolf.com
Pro Golf Alabang Town Center
Tel Nos.: 850-7834
Fax No.: 842-5050
E-mail:towncenter@teamprogolf.com
sales@teamprogolf.com
www.teamprogolf.com

Go OVER HILLS,
OVER MOUNTAINS,
MOUNTAIN BIKE ONLY P1,699.75 FOR EVERY P1,500 SINGLE RECEIPT PURCHASE (regular price: P2,500)
SLEEPING BAG ONLY P599.75 FOR EVERY P500 SINGLE RECEIPT PURCHASE (regular price: P899.75)
TENT ONLY P1,099.75 FOR EVERY P1,000 SINGLE RECEIPT PURCHASE (regular price: P1,499.75)
BUT NOT OVER BUDGET.
Only at store shop
outdoor Lifestyle company
Per DTI-NCR Permit #0705, Series of 2003
Promo period from March 28-April 8, 2003
PROMO VALID FOR REGULAR PRICED ITEMS.
SM MALLS SM Fairview: (02) 417-6380 • SM Sucat, Paranaque: (02) 820-9525 • SM City Bacoor: (046) 970-8083 • SM City Iloilo: (033) 320-2045 • SM City Cebu: (032) 232-0337 • SM City Pampanga: (045) 961-1150 • SM City Cagayan De Oro: (088) 859-2308 AYALA MALLS Park Square 1, Makati: (02) 892-2216 • Ayala Center Cebu: (032) 233-6796 • Pavillion Mall Biñan, Laguna: (049) 411-5073 ROBINSONS MALLS Robinsons Galleria: (02) 635-4733 • Robinsons Place Imus: (046) 875-3149 • Robinsons Town Mall Los Baños, Laguna: (049) 827-0531 ALABANG Festival Super Mall: (02) 850-3769 CABANATUAN NE Pacific Mall: (044) 464-0139 LIPA Fiesta World Mall: (043) 404-0093 URDANETA Magic Mall: (075) 568-3664

Simply summer's hottest

FREE
Ericsson P800
@
Plan 3500

FREE
Nokia 8910i
@
Plan 3500

FREE
Nokia 7250
@
Plan 2665

FREE
Panasonic GD88
@
Plan 2665

FREE
Nokia 3650
@
Plan 2665

FREE
Amazing Phone
@
Plan 1995

Add P1,000 and get a
Nokia 6610
@
Plan 1335
(Without camera/headset)

SMART mms
Multimedia Messaging Service
@
— THE —
PODIUM

These sizzling MMS celfones are still up for grabs!

Just when you thought it couldn't get hotter, SMART MMS comes up with more irresistible offers. We've got a variety of MMS-capable celfones with built-in and detachable cameras that let you experience the latest in technology like web browsing, movie messaging, and video streaming. All these and more await you at The Podium Mall, 18 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center.

Simply subscribe to any SMART Gold plan at the 2nd or 5th level booths at The Podium Mall and get the corresponding celfone for free! Choose from a wide array of the latest MMS-capable celfones that feature colored screens, polyphonic tones, and a lot more. Every SMART Gold plan also comes with a SMART 64K Super SIM so you can make the most out of MMS technology.

There are only two weekends left, so don't miss this chance!

April 4 - 6 OFFERS:

FREE	When you Subscribe/Switch to	Discounted	When you Subscribe/Switch to
Ericsson P800	Gold Elite 3500	Nokia 6100	Gold Choice 1335 (just add P5,500)*
Nokia 8910i	Gold Elite 3500	Nokia 6610	Gold Choice 1335 (just add P1,000)
Nokia 7650	Gold Elite 3500	Nokia 3530	Gold Pick 600 (just add P2,000)
NEW! Panasonic GD88	Gold Premium 2665	Nokia 3530	Gold Rave 500 (just add P3,000)
Nokia 7250	Gold Premium 2665	Amazing Phone	Gold Choice 1335 (just add P6,500/P6,000)
Nokia 3650	Gold Premium 2665	Amazing Phone	Gold Standard 800 (just add P14,500/P14,250)
Amazing Phone	Gold Select 1995	Amazing Phone	Gold Pick 600 (just add P16,500)
Nokia 6100	Gold Select 1995	Amazing Phone	Gold Rave 500 (just add P18,750)
Nokia 7210	Gold Select 1995		
Ericsson T68i	Gold Choice 1335		
Nokia 3530	Gold Standard 800		

*For switchers only.

Strike a pose for free at the Picture Company!

New subscribers or switchers to SMART are entitled to a free photo session at the Picture Company. You can even have your pictures resized so they can be used as celfone wallpaper! Visit the SMART MMS booths at the Podium for more details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-168, Series of 2003.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

The Picture Company
ELBOW ROOM
SMART GOLD GSM

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A-097, Series of 2003.

BARE EYE: People who love the drug monster

METRO
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Coffee on the GO!
COMBOS!
DUNKIN DONUTS Coffee
DUNKIN DONUTS Coffee
P25
2 Regular-sized Coffee

Manila, Makati keep tight SARS watch

By Jerome Aning and Leila B. Salaverria

THE MANILA city government has set up an isolation ward at the Ospital ng Maynila for possible cases of the killer flu-like disease known as the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

In Makati, local officials said foreigners and overseas Filipino workers, especially those from countries known to have an outbreak of the dreaded SARS, and their families would be closely watched for symptoms of the disease.

The ward at the Ospital ng Maynila is "sufficiently equipped and staffed with competent medical personnel," Mayor Lito Atienza said yesterday.

The mayor also ordered Manila's health authorities to monitor the city's 897 barangays for possible cases of SARS.

He said medical surveillance teams from all the four city-owned hospitals, including the Ospital, and 44 health centers have been deployed in all barangays.

Citing the monitoring teams' reports, he said no SARS cases have been reported in Manila.

The Department of Health earlier said the SARS epidemic could not forever be kept away from the country as there is no fool-proof quarantine against it.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit had warned that the deadly disease could be brought home by overseas Filipino workers.

The Manila mayor said any person suspected of having the virus, especially those coming from countries with known cases of SARS, would be tested for the disease and quarantined or isolated.

The SARS symptoms are similar to those of the ordinary flu, including fever, cough and colds. The virus is commonly communicated through "droplet infection," where particles from infected people are transferred by coughing or sneezing and ingested to other people directly through the mouth or nose. The virus can also be communicated by touching contaminated objects.

Preventive measures include frequent washing of the hands, covering the mouth or nose when coughing or sneezing, regular intake of vitamins and proper nutrition.

"It is better to be safe than sorry," Atienza said as he advised Manila residents to immediately seek medical attention if they start experiencing symptoms associated with the virus.

In Makati, Mayor Jejomar Binay ordered the city's hotels and other lodging establishments to provide the city's health department with a list of guests from Asian countries where SARS outbreaks have been reported.

Binay said Makati health authorities should immediately be notified if any foreign guests from these countries show flu-like symptoms during their stay so that authorities could take immediate action.

"While immigration and airport authorities have imposed strict screening measures on travelers from these countries, the city government is not about to take any chances," Binay said in a statement.

Binay earlier ordered barangay officials to determine how many OFW families reside in the city so that these families would be kept under close watch, Binay said.

He also ordered Makati's 29 health centers to report cases of OFWs who came from countries with SARS cases and who have sought treatment for flu-like symptoms.

He noted that Makati, home to the country's central business district, is a regular destination for foreign businessmen from Hong Kong, Singapore, and China, countries where SARS outbreaks have been reported.

Bring TONY Back!
Bring TON

HURTING, Kristine Lehmann says her kidnapped husband (inset) is "a good man, a loving husband and a wonderful father."

JESS YUSON

'Help find my husband'

"HELP me find my husband."

Kristine Lehmann yesterday made another appeal to the media in looking for her kidnapped husband, businessman and lay church leader Anthony Lehmann.

"Anthony is a good man, a loving husband and a wonderful father," Mrs. Lehman said in a news conference in Manila. "Keeping him this long has hurt the family a great deal."

Lehmann, 42, was kidnapped in their family beach house (not Westmont Resort as earlier reported) in Barangay Fatima, Mamburao, on Dec. 29, 2002. The Manila-based Lehmanns were spending the New Year holidays in Mamburao.

Kristine and her three daughters were there when four armed men (not 15 as earlier reported) who identified themselves as members of the New People's Army fired their automatic weapons, and forcibly took Lehmann and caretaker Leonardo "Enad" Mariano.

The kidnappers with their two hostages fled on board the Lehman car, which was later found in the next barangay, about 10 km from the resort. The next day, kidnappers demanded a ransom of P10 million.

"If we would not be able to meet their demand, they threatened to kill Anthony or cut off one of his arms," Kristine said in a press statement.

She said she negotiated with the kidnappers who agreed to lower the ransom amount, but they warned her not to reveal the exact ransom amount to the media.

A ransom drop was made just a few kilometers away from Mamburao proper, she said, but the kidnappers did not release Lehmann.

She said that after three months, she finally decided to break her silence because the kidnappers stopped communicating with her.

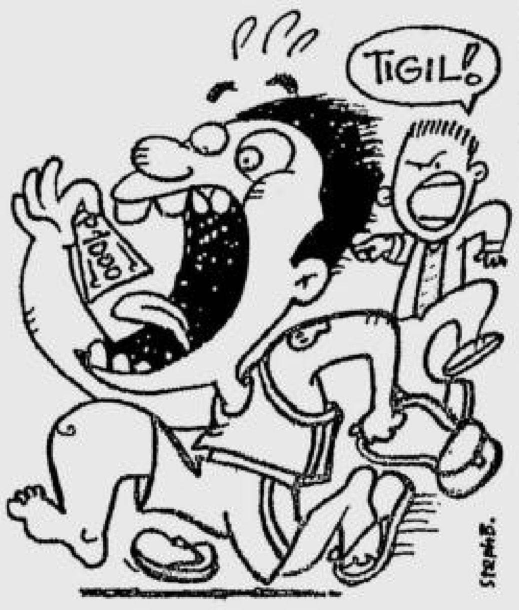
She said the kidnappers contacted her twice, the last time being on Jan. 30. She said they promised to make contact again in a month but have not done so.

"Because it's been a long time since they communicated with us, we are using the press to communicate with the kidnappers," she said in yesterday's news conference.

HELP/ A26

Thief puts his money where his mouth is

By Alcuin Papa



SNATCHERS in Cubao, Quezon City have been known to mouth it: put their cash loot in their mouth where they apparently think it would be safe from lawmen.

Juanito Salameo tried the mouth trick yesterday and swallowed a P1,000 bill, part of the loot that he had taken from a woman. Despite the deep-throat strategy, however, police still arrested the 23-year-old.

The oral-fixated Salameo, of Filinvest, Barangay Batasan, Quezon City, is now swallowing hard behind bars at the Central Police District station 7 in Cubao.

He was positively identified by his victim, Denice Chua, 30, police said.

SPO4 Rodrigo Javier said Chua was waiting for a ride to her Marikina home at the corner of Aurora Boulevard and 20th Avenue when Salameo grabbed her handbag containing her cell phone and P2,500 in cash.

Policemen caught Salameo and recovered Chua's bag, including the cell phone, but only P1,500 of the cash.

During interrogation, Salameo refused to say where the missing P1,000 was. Later, however, the snatcher with the mouthful did admit that he swallowed it, police said.

They added that swallowing is a popular modus operandi among snatchers in Cubao.

onstage 2nyt

LAS PIÑAS ☎ 801.7644	MR. ROXY CRO MAGNON	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MABINI ☎ 525.1474	FAT 16/PHYRIGIAN KOOLJACKS	NO ENTRANCE FEE
MALATE ☎ 521.8143	POWER SURGE M.CIRCUIT/BROWNIE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
NOVALICHES ☎ 936.9757	J. BROTHERS STREETLIFE	NO ENTRANCE FEE
BIÑAN ☎ (049)511.7268	POWER ON VERSE 7	NO ENTRANCE FEE
Partyplace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	FUSE	APR.05 - MIXOLOGY EXTREME HIP-HOP PARTY W/DJ SR SOUTCH & DJ M.O.D. ☎ (045)961.3360
TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S	TIA MARIA'S
JUPITER ☎ 890.4735	O 2 7 FIRST SIGHT	NO ENTRANCE FEE
REMEDIOS ☎ 522.0429	NTH-THREE 3RD DEGREE	WISE GUYS APRIL 10 & 24
TOMAS MORATO ☎ 371.1473	FU FLAVA MAJOR 7	NO ENTRANCE FEE

APRIL 04 FRIDAY 422-9877

ASTORIA PLAZA
Serviced Residential Suites

The Room sale.

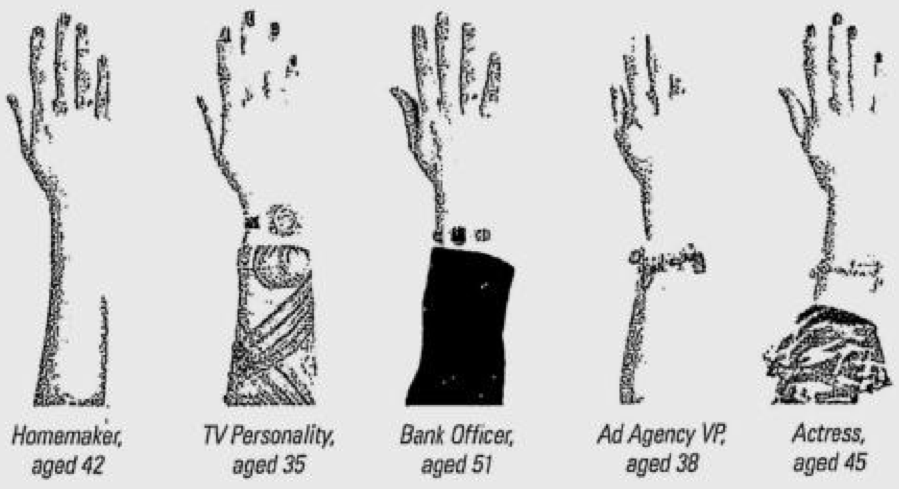
Get huge discounts on rooms up to 65% off on published rates
1-Bedroom Suite with buffet breakfast for 2 (P 7,000) P 2,350.00++
2-Bedroom Suite with buffet breakfast for 4 (P 10,000) P 3,750.00++

Get more value for your money when you purchase gift certificates during this sale month

Promo extended until April 30, 2003

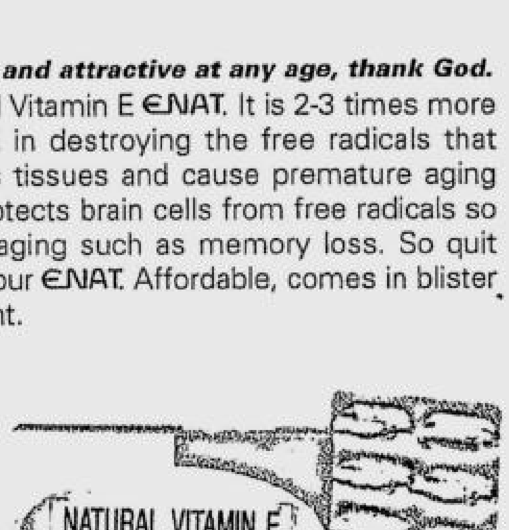
15 j. escriva drive, ortigas business district, pasig city Telephone: 687-1111 / Email:sales@astoriaplaza.com
Managed with distinction by GENESIS HOTELS & RESORTS www.genesishotels.com

Those who want to look younger, raise your hand.



Today we can look young, be active and attractive at any age, thank God.
And thank God for anti-aging natural Vitamin E ENAT. It is 2-3 times more effective than synthetic Vitamin E in destroying the free radicals that initiate degeneration of the body's tissues and cause premature aging and chronic diseases. ENAT also protects brain cells from free radicals so it prevents the mental effects of aging such as memory loss. So quit worrying about aging, start taking your ENAT. Affordable, comes in blister packs so it's always fresh and potent.

Keep them guessing about your age.



Available at mercury drug and other leading drugstores nationwide.

MEGA We Care
MEGA Products Ltd.
A NUTRACEUTICAL COMPANY
For inquiries, please contact (632) 837-8550 / 837-8561
or email us at consucare@megaproducts.com

'Riles' dwellers denounce GMA for demolition of their shanties

By Agnes E. Donato

URBAN poor activists and informal settlers living along the railroad tracks in Caloocan City yesterday marched to Malacañang to denounce President Macapagal-Arroyo for the demolition of their shanties to give way to the rehabilitation of the Philippine National Railways.

"Violent demolitions and forced dislocation of the urban poor are one of the most inhumane and unjust forms of terrorism against the people," Carmen Deunida, chair of the urban poor group Kadamay, said.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo should be made to answer for all the beatings and arrests made by her goons and policemen against the poor who were merely fighting for their right to proper housing," she added.

Deunida claimed that members of the Metro Manila Development Authority, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, and the National Housing Authority yesterday resumed the demolition of shanties in Caloocan, despite fierce opposition by local residents led by the Pagkakaisa ng Mamamayan sa Riles.

She said that many were injured and some residents and their supporters were detained for resisting the demolition.

"The urban poor are now bringing their case to Malacañang, which is responsible for putting our lives and welfare on the line in exchange for promises of modernization," Deunida said.

Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council Head Michael Defensor and the National Housing Authority had earlier promised to relocate the affected residents to Tala, Caloocan and Towerville in Bulacan.

New Nayong Pilipino to rise in Parañaque

By Leila B. Salaverria

CONSTRUCTION of the Bagong Nayong Pilipino will begin this month, according to Charito Planas, Nayong Pilipino executive director.

Planas made the announcement despite the absence of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Public Estates Authority, on whose land the new Filipino theme park will rise.

"We insist that even without the MOA, we'll have a surveyor study the area," Planas said at a Bulong Pulungan Forum last Wednesday. "Before the 15th of April, we'll put up the boundary markers."

She added that a billboard announcing the construction will rise along the Diosdado Macapagal Avenue.

The new 15-hectare park will be located near Aseana Avenue, Belle Avenue and Bay Boulevard behind the Aseana Business Park complex. The project's construction will be funded with P450 million from the management of the Ninoy Aquino International airport.

BLOWING HOT DENNIS SABANGAN

Members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines band practice under the hot sun in preparation for turnover rites of the AFP chief command in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City. Lt. Gen. Narciso Abaya will replace Gen. Dionisio Santiago who is retiring on April 8.

Manila council begins 20-day session break

By Jerome Aning

MANILA city councilors have began a 20-day break on Wednesday to attend to graduation rites and prepare for the Holy Week.

The break also coincided with the scheduled repair work of the City Council's session hall.

The council voted to take a "continuing recess" that would last until April 22.

This means the aldermen did not adjourn its session but only took an extended recess.

The city legislators will have time to attend graduation rites of pupils in their districts and observe Holy Week with their constituents.

Council president pro tempore Alejandro "Kim" Atienza, who presided over the session, explained that the recess does not mean aldermen are on vacation and would stop working.

"What was put on hold for the meantime are our legislative duties. But councilors can still do other forms of public service to their constituents and should be accessible to them at all times," he said.

Stay calm but vigilant, police tell public

By Alcuin Papa and Jerome Aning

THE NATIONAL Capital Region Police Office yesterday called on Metro Manila residents to remain calm and vigilant following the bombing in Sasa Warf in Davao City on Wednesday.

NCRPO chief Deputy Director Gen. Reynaldo Velasco yesterday also assured the public that stricter security measures in vital installations and crowded areas in the metropolis, including posts, airports, and oil depots, are now in place.

"The danger signs are now more pronounced than ever after the second Davao bombing," Velasco said. "As we condemn this terroristic attack, it is incumbent upon all Metro Manila residents to also go on heightened vigilance against suspicious persons, packages and bomb threats," he stressed.

He said he has ordered more policemen to be deployed in strategic areas to ensure public visibility and maintain peace and order in Metro Manila.

At least 16 persons, including a 2-year-old baby were killed, and 54 others were injured in the bomb blast in Sasa Warf.

Velasco and Philippine National Police chief Director Gen. Hermogenes Ebdane yesterday also presented before media antiterrorism posters and brochures for distribution and posting in vital transportation systems in the metropolis.

The NCRPO chief also urged the public to report suspicious-looking characters or mysterious packages they might find through the PNP Text 2910, the DILG Police Hotline 117 and the DOTC's Action Agad Hotline 7890.

"The cooperation of the public is vital to the effective antiterrorism campaign of the government," Velasco said. "It is a shared responsibility between the police and citizenry."

The latest bombing in Davao was the second terrorist act in the city in barely a month. Earlier, a bomb exploded at the Davao airport killing about 20 people.

In Manila, a project engineer of the Light Rail Transit yesterday found a grenade placed in the path of a wheel of his car, which was parked along C.M. Recto Avenue in Sta. Cruz.

Engineer Rey Garcia found the Mark 2-fragmentation grenade at 9:30 a.m. yesterday, according to Insp. Lorenzo Molato of the Manila police's explosives and ordnance division.

Police said the grenade was wrapped in newspapers.

Reyes' car was parked below the LRT-2 Station at the corner of Recto and Evangelista Streets.

Reyes said he saw the bundle under a wheel of his car and kicked it away, and the grenade rolled out.

"I thought it was feces so I kicked it out of the way," he told the radio station RMN-Manila in an interview.

Although the grenade's safety pin and lever were intact, investigators said that if the car rolled over it, the grenade would have exploded and destroyed the car.

BENEFICIARIES of the Kinabukasan ng Kabataan livelihood program receive their educational kits from Presidential daughter Luli Macapagal-Arroyo, chair of the project. TLRC director-general Federico Laxa, Ricky Reyes, Mrs. Rita Carlos of Valenzuela City and Mrs. Mel Aguilar of Las Piñas lend their support to the endeavor.

MAPUA PROF HONORED

A bronze bust of the late Mapua School of Chemical Engineering and Chemistry Prof. Lauro A. Limuaco was unveiled by the Lauro A. Limuaco Memorial Foundation Inc. From left are: Clement Q. Jalijali, Leticia Rosario-Guevara, former LALMFI president Dolores Legaspi-Lim, Leonila Limuaco-Encarnacion; Mapua president and CEO Dr. Reynaldo B. Vea, Carlos Yao Cuisan, Carmencitta Fabella-Fahardo and LALMFI president and chair Hernando P. Lumsin.

'Help find my husband'

From page A25

She also corrected an earlier report that identified her husband as an American national.

"My husband is Filipino," she said. "He's a son of a United States war veteran, but he was born and raised here."

Her husband "has never held a US passport," she added.

The Lehmanns' daughters are 15, 13 and 9 years old. "They are very strong children, they are not in a corner crying," their mother said.

She said she spoke to President Macapagal-Arroyo last March 29 to ask for help in having her husband released.

Lehmann is the president of Petnet, a money transfer company. He is active in his church, the Lighthouse Christian Community, in Mamburao, she said.

He has been known to bring medical and dental missions to Mamburao and to encourage his friends to invest in the area.

Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato of Occidental Mindoro said the Army is helping in the investigation of the Lehmann kidnapping.

Rep. Sato said she believes Lehmann and his captors are still in Mindoro.

Speaking from Lucena City, Communist leader Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal assured Lehmann's family that New People's Army rebels would help in the search for him and his captors.

Rosal said the rebels also want to clear the name of the NPA which was earlier blamed for the kidnapping.

The communist spokesperson in turn pointed to the military as the one behind the abduction of Lehmann.

"The group that abducted Lehmann could be elements of a criminal syndicate under the protection of the military," he said, "or they could be members of the military." *Anne Luisa E. Villarico in Manila; Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

'Because it's been a long time since they communicated with us, we are using the press to communicate with the kidnappers'

People who love the drug monster

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

THE LEAN, dusky vegetable vendor was complaining.

She said she never got to see how beautiful the young victim was.

The dead girl was supposed to be angelic, but her parents kept her coffin sealed throughout the wake.

No way they could let people view the cadaver, the vendor gasped.

She said the girl's face had been turned into a pulp, the most gory Halloween mask.

The innocent eyes popped out after the girl's face was smashed with a rock.

She had a hole in the left temple, the vendor continued.

The girl's throat had also been slashed, the right arm crushed, its bone broken.

Yes, the seven-year-old lass was repeatedly raped, the vendor confirmed, and the shabu addicts also stuffed assorted garbage into her anus and sex organ.

This unofficial sidewalk autopsy was bared yesterday in a wet market in Hulo, Mandaluyong City, not too far from the shallow creek where the body of Nina Gwenzel Eleneth Severino, 7, was fished out last week.

The girl had gone missing after being sent on an errand, the vendor related.

When they found her three days later, she was wrapped in a black plastic trash bag, rotting.

Mourners were crying as they brought her to her resting place near a new cockfight arena in Mandaluyong.

***

What followed was a quiet outrage.

They don't say it, but you could feel dread and anger among those affected by the drug-related crime.

Only a monster was capable of such an unspeakable crime, people swore.

Actually, four suspects had been apprehended. They all tested positive for illegal drugs.

Also yesterday, an earlier report that two of the suspects had been quietly eliminated was denied.

An informant said the suspects were actually shipped to Camp Crame to save them from possible lynching.

On Monday, Mayor Benhur Abalos reportedly lost his cool.

The youthful city executive demanded that other suspects behind the crime be arrested.

But it was hard to truly count how many people were behind the crime.

In fact, numerous profiteers continue to prosper by looking the other way as the drug monster continues to prowl city streets.

***

Who help feed the monster?

All those who profit in the illegal drug trade, including people who function inside city hall.

This finding was firmed up with the help of informants who said pushers and drug lords are not the only ones who rake it in by feeding the drug monster.

There was the case of a known pusher in Barangay Pitong Gatang (Mandaluyong), a certain Jimmy, who had been booked for drug-related offenses no less than three times.

He's again doing brisk business, cried Kagawad Side Manansala of Barangay Vergara.

Manansala had actually sought the assistance of this reporter when this Jimmy was last booked for pushing.

Manansala was frantic because, he said, we must beat the deadline before the nabbed pusher could again put up the required price for him to be released by his captors.

Manansala swore one of his sons, who was hooked on shabu and had to be rehabilitated, singled out this Jimmy as a top shabu supplier.

***

You want to be booked as pusher or plain user?

There's a price for everything, bared a sharp-nosed city hall insider, a civic worker who had a big hand in managing the successful electoral campaign of the city mayor.

This well-placed informant said the shameless accommodation being granted drug offenders has reached a point that it had affected the morale of the police.

Why would a policeman risk his life, he said, when in the end the cop would be the one scolded for having booked someone with the right connection?

This sickening malpractice was confirmed last Monday by a former classmate of this reporter who said they were chastised after they booked a pusher who turned out to be a relative of a top barangay official in Addition Hills.

Of course, what tops them all is this complaint from a newly elected elder city councilor, a well-respected expert in barangay affairs.

This political guru exposed a dirty practice in the city judiciary branch, which he said continues to frustrate the efforts of Mayor Abalos to fight drug addiction in his turf.

How could the anti-drug campaign take off, the grizzled guru complained, when a release paper is already being typed up even before prosecutors could complete filing a drug case?

Mayor Benhur Abalos could only grit his teeth.

The best he could do was answer for all the funeral expenses of poor angelic Nina, the latest but not the last victim of the well-fed drug monster.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, April 4, 2003
4th Week of Lent

1st Reading:	**Wis 2:1, 12-22**
Gospel:	**Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30**

Jesus went around Galilee; he would not go about in Judea because the Jews wanted to kill him. Now the Jewish feast of the Tents was at hand.

But after his brothers had gone to the festival, he also went up, not publicly but in secret.

Some of the people of Jerusalem said, "Is this not the man they want to kill? And here he is speaking freely, and they don't say a word to him? Can it be that the rulers know that this is really the Christ? Yet we know where this man comes from; but when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from."

So Jesus announced in a loud voice in the Temple court where he was teaching, "You say that you know me and know where I come from! I have not come of myself; I was sent by the One who is true, and you don't know him. I know him for I come from him and he sent me."

They would have arrested him, but no one laid hands on him because his time had not yet come.

Commentary

"I have not come of myself." This is a theme that runs through Jesus' life as well as his understanding of his ministry. As a young man, visiting with his parents in Jerusalem, he stayed behind in the temple to talk with elders. When asked by his parents why he had done such, his response was that he was going about his Father's business. Now, almost at the end of his earthly ministry, Jesus is saying the same thing. It's his Father's business he's about. It's his Father who has sent him, he didn't come on his own. His was the perfect obedience of a Son to the will of his Father. We too could know the Father in such a deep and personal way if only we follow in the path Jesus himself had set. That path is one of knowing not about God, but of knowing him personally. No matter how 'religious' we might be, no matter how pious and devout our religious practices, no matter how faithful we are in obeying the laws of our religion, without a personal encounter and relationship with God, a great deal of our religiosity will really feel empty and hollow. We must come to know God in a very profound way by coming to him and knowing that he too is our Father.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

AT ALMS' LENGTH
No one appears to have the time or the dime to spare for this old woman begging for alms at the corner of West Avenue and Edsa in Quezon City. DENNIS SABANGAN

NPDO drug unit abolished

Shootout among cops draws ire of district chief

By Tina Santos

NORTHERN Police District Office director Senior Supt. Marcelino Franco Jr. has abolished the district's Drug Enforcement Group following Tuesday night's shootout among lawmen at a police outpost in Caloocan City.

PO3 Eduardo Gaddi was killed in the shootout, while DEG chief Reynaldo Orante and SPO4 Jorge Tabayag were seriously wounded.

Franco said the 22-man unit was disbanded on Wednesday.

In a phone interview, Franco told the INQUIRER that the affected lawmen would be assigned to police offices in the Camanava (Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela) area.

Franco said that, aside from the shooting incident, there were other factors that contributed to his decision to dissolve the unit. He did not reveal what the factors were.

But according to a police source, the unit was abolished because it had been the subject of many complaints.

The source claimed that a number of complainants had accused the DEG members of selling the illegal drugs seized from peddlers.

The source also said that members of the unit would readily drop the charges against arrested drug suspects in exchange for money.

"(The DEG) had become a milking cow of corrupt cops," the source said.

Franco said drug cases would now be handled by the four police offices in his district. He added that once he sees the need to form another drug unit, he will only recruit new officers for the task.

Franco also revealed that he has also turned over the DEG case to the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group to avoid perception of a whitewash.

After the incident, Franco immediately ordered the DEG members to undergo drug tests.

On Tuesday night, PO3 Gaddi reportedly shot it out with DEG chief Orante and SPO4 Tabayag inside the DEG post on Langaray Street, Dagat-dagatan, Caloocan.

According to the initial report, Gaddi confronted his superiors at around 10:15 p.m. after he learned that he was going to be transferred to the Valenzuela Police. A shootout erupted at the height of the argument. One of the shooters reportedly even emptied his ammunition clip on Gaddi's body.

Orante, Tabayag and SPO2 Manolito Manalo are all facing homicide charges and possible dismissal from the force.

Warring gangs make peace behind bars

By Leila Salaverria

WARRING gangs at the New Bilibid Prisons yesterday took an unprecedented step when they forged a peace agreement among themselves.

The jail gangs signed the "peace accord" yesterday, the 68th birthday of NBP Director Ricardo Macala.

He hailed the peace agreement as one of the best birthday gifts he has ever received.

"(The peace pact) had been my Christmas wish, but I didn't get it (then)," Macala said during a program celebrating his birthday. "Now, I didn't ask for peace but I got it."

When he addressed the prisoners, Macala also dispelled the rumor that he would be sacked at the start of this month. He also said that it was not true that he has been getting P5 from each of the inmates' food budget and keeping the amount for himself or that he allows drugs to be brought inside prison.

He said that he has tried his best to do what is right for the NBP.

During the ceremony, which the inmates allegedly organized themselves, Macala received from the inmates a wooden image of the Holy Family and a painting done by prison artists.

The gang leaders also took the stage and sang the '80s hit "We Are the World."

As a result of the agreement, prison officials may expect a decrease in the number of rumbles this year, according to an inmate.

He said those who would defy the agreement would be sanctioned. Earlier this year, 12 of the 13 jail gang leaders threatened to hold a rally in support of convict Rey Yap, who had been hauled off to the disciplinary cell for alleged possession of fake cash. Yap had accused prison officials of planting the evidence to pin him down.

METROBRIEFS

Stabbed

THE BODY of an unidentified man, who was stabbed several times, was fished out of a creek in Binondo, Manila on Monday. The man was described as about 40 years old and stood at about 5-foot-4. He was wearing a dirty white shirt and a blue and white basketball pants, said Detective Edison Bertoldo of the Western Police District. The body was found at 9:15 a.m. at the Muelle De Divisoria off Juan Luna Street in Binondo. The body, already in advanced state of decomposition, was taken to the Popular Funeral Home for autopsy. ***Philip Tubeza***

Shot

ILLEGAL drugs might have something to do with the murder of a woman in Quezon City Wednesday night. The unidentified victim was described as about 43 years old and was wearing a yellow t-shirt and denim pants. Her body, which bore several gunshots, was taken to the Lantin General Hospital. Central Police District officials said the woman was shot at around 7 p.m. while she was walking on Magnolia Street, Barangay Talipapa, Novaliches. Witnesses said two men on a motorcycle opened fire on the victim and fled after making sure that she was dead. ***Alcuin Papa***

Hanged

RAYMOND Constantino, 29, of Barangay Barangka, Marikina City, allegedly committed suicide after he fought with his wife and mother yesterday. Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina, Marikina City police chief, said the victim's mother, Consuelo, 55, found Constantino's body hanging in the kitchen at around 6 a.m. Consuelo also found a three-page note, supposedly written by her son just before he died. PO3 Virgilio Cayetano Jr. of the Marikina police said Consuelo and the victim's wife, Ingrid, had a quarrel with Constantino over the latter's drug habit. ***Nelson Flores***

Commended

MANDALUYONG Mayor Benjamin Abalos Jr. on Wednesday commended the local police force for cracking the case of the seven-year-old girl who was raped and slain last week. According to police records, the body of Nina Gwenzel Severino, a resident of Barangay Hulo, Mandaluyong City, was found floating in a shallow creek on March 26. Her body, which bore torture marks, was wrapped in a black plastic bag. Police said there were indications that she had been raped. Police said Severino was last seen on March 24 in the company of tricycle drivers Merino Pedrosa, 28, Tomas Ortega, 28, Danny Gonzales, 24, and Danilo Ramos, 48. After they were arrested, the suspects tested positive for illegal drugs, police said. A 12-year-old boy reportedly witnessed the crime and identified the suspects in a police lineup. ***Nelson Flores***

Baghdad
Iraqi Forces
IRAQ
EGYPT
SAUDI AR
Allied Naval Fleet
Muscat
24 ORAS
SAKSI
FRONTPAGE ULAT NI MEL TIANGCO
FLASH REPORT
unang hirit

CNN at GMA

CHRISTIANE AMANPOUR
CNN Chief International Correspondent

MIKE ENRIQUEZ
GMA Senior News Anchor

Ang pagsasanib-puwersa
ng mga pinagkakatiwalaan
sa mundo ng pagbabalita.
Sa ngalan ng katotohanan,
ihahatid ang mga balita
at mainit na pangyayari sa
Giyera sa Iraq.

Makiisa sa alyansa!
Tumutok na sa

Para sa inyo mga Kapuso,
dahil kayo dapat ang unang makaalam.

GMA NEWS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Serbisyong Totoo

*Ang CNN ay isa sa mga news content provider ng GMA

Tribute to commercial makers who make us believe in dreams

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

PEOPLE who have worked with him know TV commercial (TVC) director **Vittorio Romero**, or Vitt, as a guy who is always in control.

Among Vitt's works are **Mari Kaimo**'s "Hibang" for PLDT, Metrobank's "Titanic," **Freddie Aguilar** for Gold Eagle using his hit "Anak," Duty Free's "Tonyo," and Tanduay's "Indiana Jones" with the late **Anthony Alonzo**.

He directed 30-second TVCs with **Sharon Cuneta** and **Aga Muhlach** for Selecta Ice Cream, **Aiko Melendez** for Rexona, and **Donita Rose** and **Lucy Torres** for Lux. He has also worked with **Mikee Cojuangco**, **Robert Jaworski**, **Dawn Zulueta** and **Lea Salonga**.

Yet, while Vitt has taken the credit for his reputable TV ads, he shares the glory with the other "unsung" heroes in advertising, his fellow directors. He introduces the men behind the TV ads in his own website (http://www.vittromero.com).

"I am blessed to be in a business where I know that I am surrounded by people who continue to inspire and encourage me to do great things," allows Vitt, whose father **Dante** named him after the late Italian filmmaker **Vittorio de Sica**.

"Making a commercial is no easy task. A lot of things have to be done. And while being a director means being in charge, I cannot own all the credit. There are also production designers, acting coaches, cinematographers, stylists and, of course, film directors."

Vitt considers the directors his friends in the business. Some of them are even his mentors.

"Without their help, I am literally nothing. Commercials would not be the same and we'd have one less thing to be proud of," he says.

In an effort to globalize Philippine advertising, Vitt has conceptualized an extensive web-

TRIBUTE/ A30

INNOVATIVE. Manolo Abaya with Joey de Leon for Superwheel.

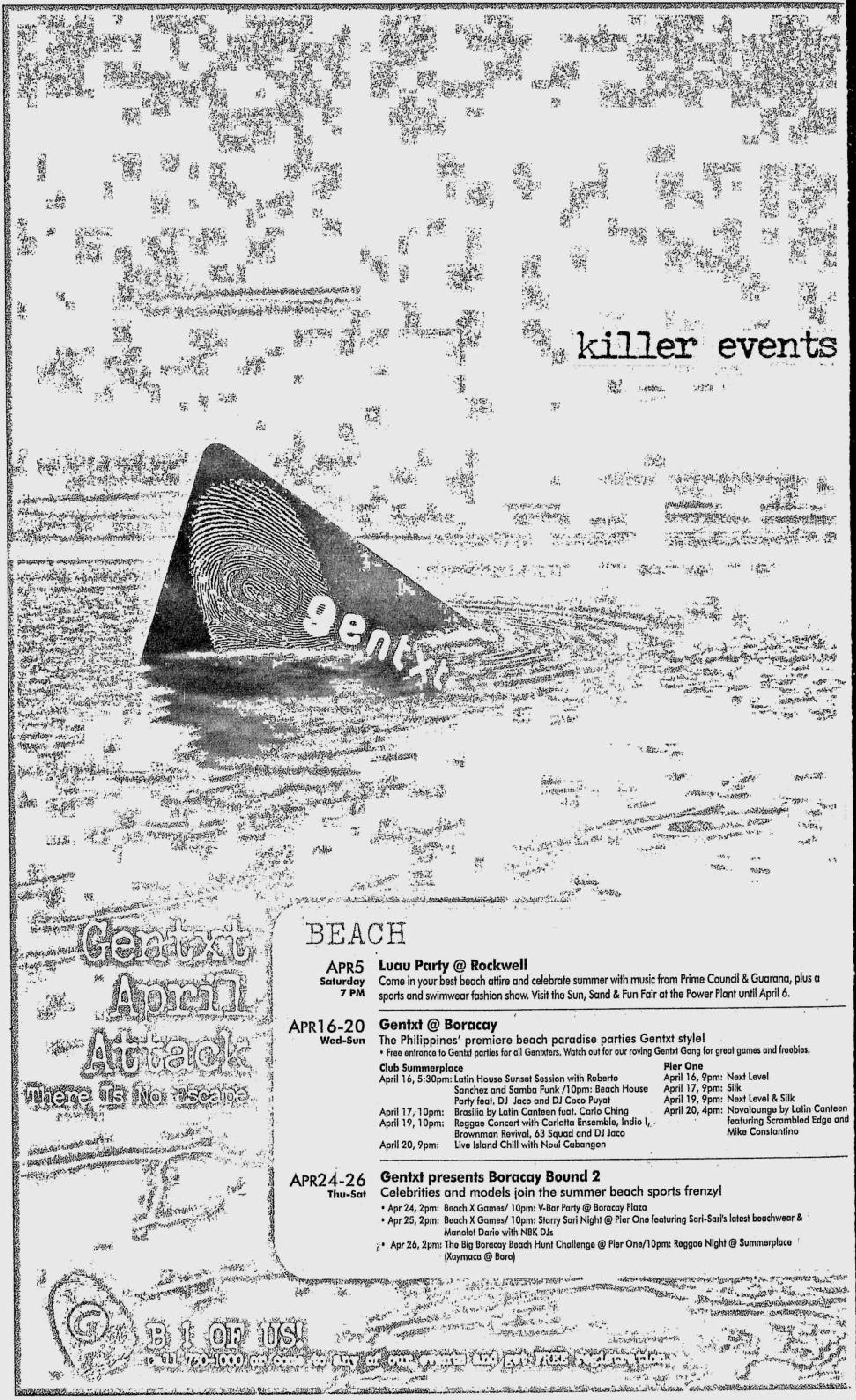
GLOBALIZING. Vittorio Romero opens a website on directors, cinematographers and editors.

MR. SHOOLI. Jun Urbano (left) directed the San Miguel Beer commercial, "Isang Platitong Mani," with former President Joseph Estrada.

"JOLLIBEE" MAN. Jun Reyes with Pops Fernandez.

YOUTH AND VIBRANCY. Joey Agbayani works with Geneva Cruz.

"STARMAKER." Dindo Angeles with "Lumen," January Isaac.



BEACH

APR5 Saturday 7 PM **Luau Party @ Rockwell**
Come in your best beach attire and celebrate summer with music from Prime Council & Guarana, plus a sports and swimwear fashion show. Visit the Sun, Sand & Fun Fair at the Power Plant until April 6.

APR16-20 Wed-Sun **Gentxt @ Boracay**
The Philippines' premiere beach paradise parties Gentxt style!
• Free entrance to Gentxt parties for all Gentxters. Watch out for our roving Gentxt Gang for great games and freebies.

Club Summerplace
April 16, 5:30pm: Latin House Sunset Session with Roberto Sanchez and Samba Funk /10pm: Beach House Party feat. DJ Jaco and DJ Coco Puyat
April 17, 10pm: Brasilia by Latin Canteen feat. Carlo Ching
April 19, 10pm: Reggae Concert with Carlotta Ensemble, Indio I, Brownman Revival, 63 Squad and DJ Jaco
April 20, 9pm: Live Island Chill with Noel Cabangon

Pier One
April 16, 9pm: Next Level
April 17, 9pm: Silk
April 19, 9pm: Next Level & Silk
April 20, 4pm: Novalounge by Latin Canteen featuring Scrambled Edge and Mike Constantino

APR24-26 Thu-Sat **Gentxt presents Boracay Bound 2**
Celebrities and models join the summer beach sports frenzy!
• Apr 24, 2pm: Beach X Games/ 10pm: V-Bar Party @ Boracay Plaza
• Apr 25, 2pm: Beach X Games/ 10pm: Starry Sari Night @ Pier One featuring Sari-Sari's latest beachwear & Manolet Dario with NBK DJs
• Apr 26, 2pm: The Big Boracay Beach Hunt Challenge @ Pier One/10pm: Reggae Night @ Summerplace (Xaymaca @ Boro)

TENSE TIME. Jorja Fox plays criminal scene investigator Sara Sidle in "CSI" on AXN.

Jorja's answered prayer

By Marinel R. Cruz

TELEVISION actress Jorja Fox is no stranger to violence: She plays criminal scene investigator Sara Sidle in the top-rating "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," aired on cable TV over AXN.

But Fox, who has been exposed to numerous cases of death and suffering in the action-adventure series is against the ongoing US-led attack on Iraq.

"I send all my prayers to the people of Iraq, especially to the women and children," she told a group of Southeast Asian writers in a recent conference.

Divided Americans

"Now is a very tense time in the United States," she said. "Never have the citizens of America been this divided over an issue since the Vietnam War in the early seventies. I really hope that the split would turn out into something positive."

"CSI," which is on its third season, is about a team of forensic investigators, led by senior forensics officer Gil Grissom (William Peterson), and the crimes they solve with high-tech gadgets by assessing pieces of evidence gathered at the crime scene.

Fox, 34, who is based in California, describes "CSI" as "an anti-violent series that presents people in the worst days of their lives."

Rave reviews

"It's a show that has subjects most Americans would not want to talk about," she said.

Despite the serious nature of the topics tackled in the show, "CSI" is continuously garnering rave reviews in the US.

Fox attributes the show's success to the sense of security it conveys to its viewers.

"It makes it look very difficult to get away from some crime," she explained.

The show's producers hired a team of technical advisers and arranged for crime laboratories in Las Vegas and Los Angeles to be open for cast members of "CSI" to use, according to Fox. This, she said, is primarily to help train the actors for their roles as forensic investigators.

Traditional way

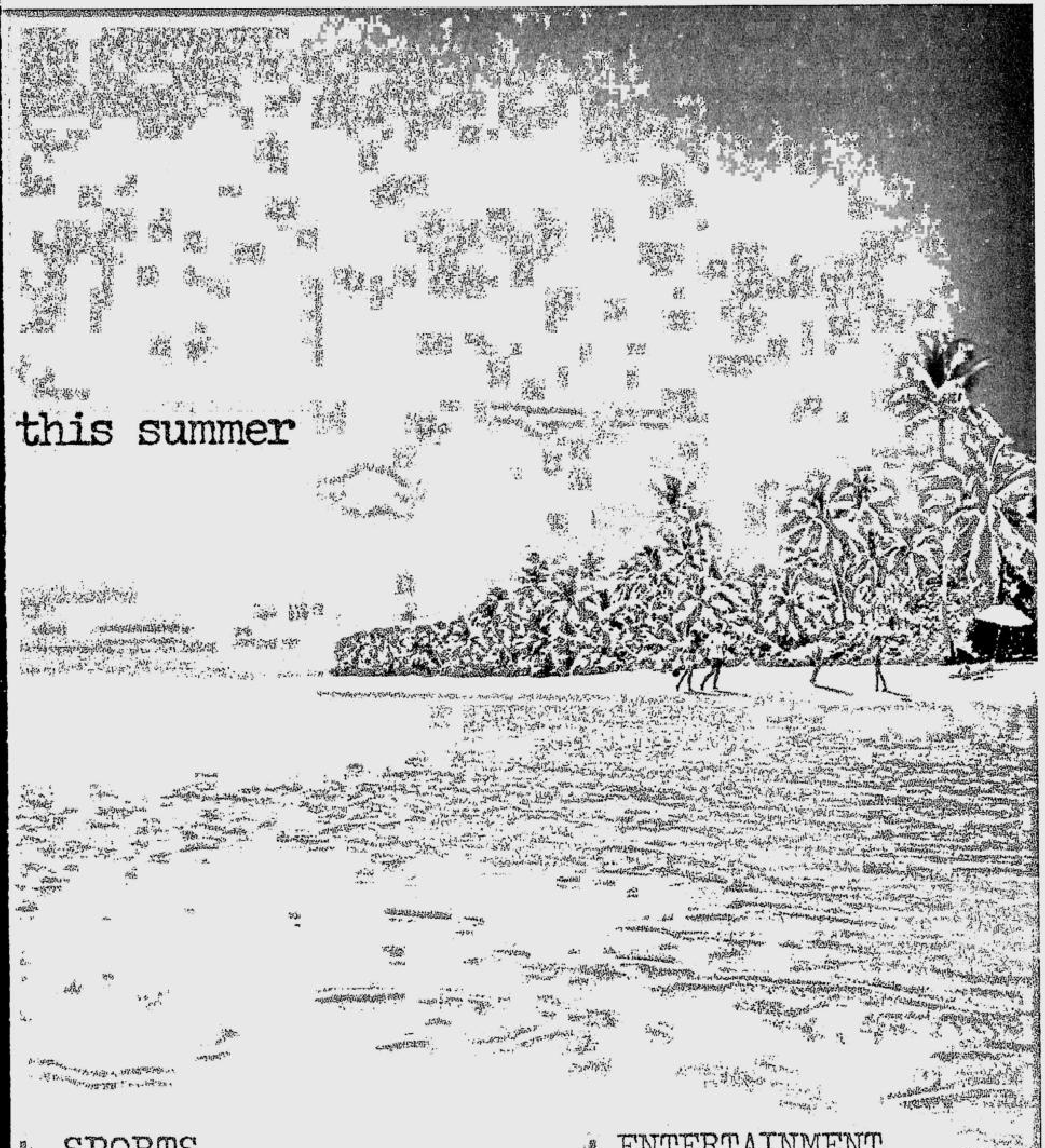
"Reading medical trivia books also helped me understand my role better," she said. "I have always been fascinated with science."

Fox landed the role of Sara in a "very traditional way."

"I went to the audition, read a part, and then left," she recalled. "I got a call from one of the show's producers a few days later asking for a meeting."

After two seasons, Fox has learned to adapt Sara's brazen attitude and

JORJA'S/ A30



SPORTS

APR4-6 Fri- Sun **Rough & Tough @ Alabang Town Center**
Gentxt showcases the latest sports machines, gear and fashion.
- Apr 4 - Prime Council Concert
- Apr 5 - Speedo fashion show

APR5-27 **adidas Streetball Challenge 2003 presented by Gentxt**
Slam'n jam with some of the country's top amateur players
- Apr 5-6: Robinson's, Sta. Rosa
- Apr 5: St. Louis Univ., Baguio
- Apr 12: Divine Word Coll., Legazpi
- Apr 25-27: Robinson' s, San Fernando

APR5-27 Sat- Sun **Gentxt National Beach Football Cup**
Feel the football fever as the country's top varsity college and amateur clubs take this one of a kind tournament on tour!
- Apr 5-6: Luzon Cup, Subic
- Apr 12-13: Visayas Cup, Boracay
- April 26-27: Mindanao Cup, GenSan
- May 3-4: National Championship, Boracay

APR6-13 **Manila Youth Games @ Rizal Memorial Complex**
Watch 10,000 of Manila's best young athletes compete in 12 different sports as they help build a strong, healthy and peaceful community this summer.

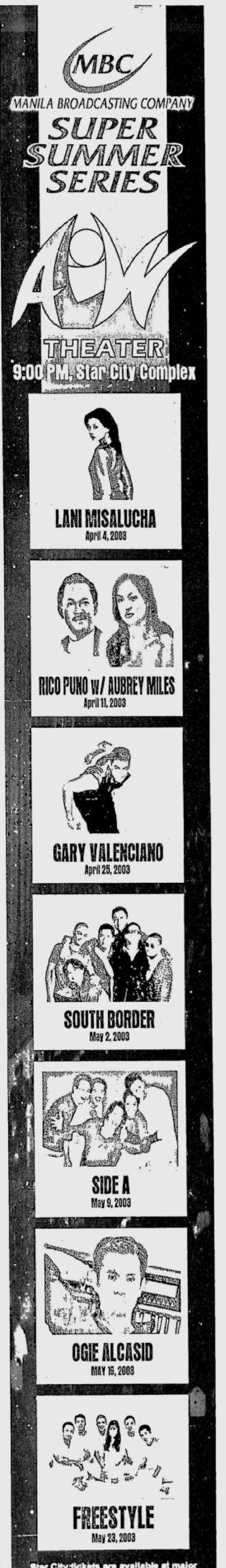
ENTERTAINMENT

APR4 Friday 10 PM **DMC Party Crew at Ⓖ City in Eastwood**
Move to the mad-bad, hiphop mix of DJ M.O.D., DJ Kimozave, DJ Sir Scratch and MC Razor Ray

APR4,11 & 25 Friday 9 PM **Gentxt Nights @ DISH, Rockwell Power Plant**
featuring Barbie's Cradle (Apr 4) and Paolo Santos (Apr 11 & 25) and Pido with Take One. Unwind with songs to soothe your soul this summer.
- Flash your Gentxt card and get free entrance and a free drink
- VIP area for the first 100 Gentxters

APR28 Monday 8 PM **XMEN 2 Premiere @ Onstage, Greenbelt 1**
Gentxt brings you mutant madness at its best in this exclusive advanced screening!
- First 400 Gentxters to register at the venue at 6pm get one free ticket each

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE


MBC
MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY
SUPER SUMMER SERIES
AW THEATER
9:00 PM, Star City Complex

LANI MISALUCHA
April 4, 2003

RICO PUNO w/ AUBREY MILES
April 11, 2003

GARY VALENCIANO
April 25, 2003

SOUTH BORDER
May 2, 2003

SIDE A
May 9, 2003

OGIE ALCASID
MAY 16, 2003

FREESTYLE
May 23, 2003

Star City tickets are available at major National Book Store branches, Robinson's Department Store (Malate and Galleria), Tower Records (Makati and Alabang), Music Museum (Virra Mall, GreenHills), Ayala Center Inc. Greenbelt 1 Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby, Glorietta 1 Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby and on the TicketWorld web site found at www.ticketworld.com.ph Call 891-9610 for inquiries and reservations.

Excessive focus on gossip

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LOCAL entertainment has become so scandal and gossip-oriented that really important developments are given short shrift by show biz talk shows on TV and the entertainment portions of regular newscasts.

Thus, in 2002, little coverage was provided of some major issues like the MMFF subsidy share of Mowelfund being cut down, the movie bill that has now been into law, the start of operations of the new Film Development Council of the Philippines, problems at the Film Academy of the Philippines, the exploitation and moral pollution engendered by the sex-film craze, etc.

Instead, many hours have been spent chronicling cheap spats between minor celebrities initially intriguing but now tedious romances, the **Kris-Joey-Alma** imbroglio, new bold stars true confessions, and any number of marital break-ups and one-night stands.

Granted, these are "colorful" developments, but what do they really add to the entertainment scene on a long-term basis? Here's where we separate the entertainment journalist from the hack and it looks like most TV people who survey the local show biz scene belong to the second category.

This focus on gossip does a disservice to the few people in the industry who are trying to do good, innovative work, despite the field's generally quickie and sleazy orientation.

These exceptional workers may be in the minority, but that makes their contributions all the more laudable and worthy of extensive coverage in show biz reports.

The situation also does a disservice to the millions of people who comprise the local entertainment audience. If the media feed them mostly gossip and scandal, their interest in entertainment will remain at that low level.

Indeed, the national obsession with personalities and disdain for issues can partly be attributed to the miseducation they have been receiving from media coverage of the show biz scene.

An exception to the rule was the media coverage of the Nida Blanca murder case. Sure, it ended up being excessive, but the case was an important one due to the star-victim's stature, so some of the intense media attention was merited.

Unfortunately, it got to the point where it was just going around in circles, because too many new theories were being floated, and there was the feeling that the real motives weren't being touched on. It's important therefore, that media should keep reminding investigators to keep on top of the case, because its well-loved victim and her many friends and fans continue to cry out for justice.

As for other real and concocted "issues" that will "enliven" the show biz scene this year, we should try harder to focus on the really significant developments, that can affect the entertainment we get for years to come, instead of the tawdry tussles that are staged to get them dim, little starlets their 15 seconds of "fame." OK, give them their 15 seconds, but don't stretch them out to three weeks!

'Frailty'

"FRAILTY," starring **Bill Paxton** and **Matthew McConaughey**, is now on VCD. The intriguing and chilling suspense thriller is set in Texas and centers on the FBI's search for a serial killer who calls himself God's Hands.

McConaughey plays the killer's younger brother. He cooperates with the FBI in its investigation - only to discover that neither evil or innocence are what they seem.

Acoustic jamming

ALL Wednesdays of April at Hard Rock Cafe, **Nyoy Volante** and **Jimmy Bondoc** will be performing their unique brand of acoustic music. Both singers also play the guitar, and will be jamming with other musicians onstage.

Jimmy's repertoire includes songs as diverse as "Aubrey," "Dilemma," "Fields of Gold," "Hanggang Ngayon," "Tattooed on my Mind," and "Your Body Is a Wonderland," while Nyoy performs "To Where You Are," "Just the Way You Are," "It Might Be You," Mais Que Nada," She's All I Ever Had" and "Kahit Kailan." Call 893-4661.

'The Snake Wranglers'

EVERY Monday at 9 p.m., the National Geographic Channel telecasts "The Snake Wranglers," on experts different attempts to catch deadly snakes.

On April 7, "Swimming with Sea Snakes" shows **Dr. Zoltan Takacs** traveling to Vanuatu and Fiji in search of deadly sea snakes to answer the question, "Why are some sea snakes resistant to their venom?"

NEW DAY FOR CELINE

Celine Dion rehearses with Cirque du Soleil dancers for the "Celine Dion: A New Day" show at the Colosseum at Ceasar Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada. Celine, who sang the Oscar-winning song, "My Heart Will Go On," for "Titanic," and other tunes like "Because You Loved Me," "Power of Love" and "It's All Coming Back (To Me Now)", is being paid millions of dollars for the show. GETTY IMAGES

GARY V AT THE PODIUM

A mall show with a full-concert feel

By Margaux Ortiz

EVEN THE posh white walls of the high-end Ortigas mall, the Podium, seemed charged with anticipation as an excited crowd gathered at the main lobby awaiting the appearance of Mr. Pure Energy himself, Gary Valenciano.

The World of Music special at the Podium last March 28 was meant to promote two of Gary V's recent albums as part of his yearlong 20th anniversary celebration. The first was "Beyond Words," a compilation of his classic hits as interpreted by the country's top session and jazz artists. The second was "Gary V at the Movies," featuring popular movie themes he sang through the years.

But before the crowd could actually sing with one of the most talented performers in the local music scene and dance to his music, they first had a breathtaking pre-Gary V treat. Classical and jazz musicians like Terry Undag (flugelhorn), Renato Lucas (cello), Ronnie Marqueses (trombone) and Jay Cayuca (electric violin) paid homage to the music of Gary V by playing songs included in "Beyond Words."

At first, one couldn't help but be skeptical at this new project. After all, what is a Gary V song without the voice and the signature dance moves that come with it? And is it really possible to transform his compositions into entirely classical or jazz pieces?

But after listening to Undag, Lucas, Marqueses and Cayuca interpret the songs with such verve and passion and add a new and personal flavor to each composition, one could conclude that it really is possible. And the audience seemed to agree, enthusiastically whistling and roaring during each performance.

HERE FOR YOU. Gary V makes a vow.

From Lucas' soothing rendition of "Sana Maulit Muli," Undag and Marqueses' spunky and jazzy "What More Can I Say" and "Each Passing Night," and finally to Cayuca's electrifying "Take Me Out of the Dark," everything seemed to be a fitting introduction to the inimitable man whose 20 years as a performer has encouraged many an aspiring artist to follow in his nimble footsteps.

When program host Vanessa Mayuga finally confirmed it was Gary V's turn to be on stage, the crowd just went wild.

"People ask me what inspires me to write a song, and I say it can be a look, a story, or what I'm going through," Gary told his adoring audience. "And to hear the musicians play the music in their own way, it does something to my soul, it makes me realize how blessed I am."

He first sang "Reaching Out to You" and, as expected, the screams became louder.

Gary V then asked the audience what he should do next. Fervent female voices rose above the crowd shouting "Kailangan Kita," referring to the theme of the Aga Muhlach-Claudine Barretto starrer which raked money at the tills last year. He gladly granted their request, which of course, elicited more squeals of pleasure from his fans.

Although singing "Kailangan Kita" required minimal bodily activity from Gary, its effect on everyone was the same as when he did his more energetic numbers, such as the next song, "Di Bale Na Lang Kaya."

For his last number, Gary sang the theme from "Nine Mornings," the movie that starred Donita Rose and Piolo Pascual.

"Even during these very difficult times, I promise that I will be here for you," Gary V reassured the crowd.

"Even after the autograph signing at the end of the program, I will still be with you, just like He will be with you."

Only Mr. Pure Energy can make you feel that you've just been to a major concert–complete with the songs, dances and the incomparable dynamism–when all you've been to is the mall.

"Beyond Words" will have another performance at The Podium on April 26.

New martial arts TV series

CATCH the remarkable story of the "Amazing Twins," Saturdays, 8 p.m. on IBC-13, as they journey in search of their missing parents.

All the breathtaking action of Ang Lee's "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," the rollicking comedy of Jackie Chan, romance and moving melodrama come together in this spellbinding presentation from Viva TV.

"The Amazing Twins" stars Jimmy Lin and Tae. It tells the story of Charlie and Gary, two boys raised in ordinary circumstances by their known parents but whose lives would take different turns as they uncover one mystery after another.

Charlie (Jimmy Lin) is the son of a rich gangster. Though intelligent, his manners leave much to be desired. He behaves like a gangster and enjoys making fun of others. Gary (Tae) is the son of a poor couple who lives out in the mountains.

Aiko breaks away ...

From page A31

But Melendez said she would continue to support worthy programs of the administration of Mayor Sonny Belmonte and Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, with or without recognition.

Belmonte supported Melendez's decision. Also behind her were lawyer Jojo Ochoa, who is the city administrator and Tady Palma, who is her adviser.

Melendez also assured that with her independence, "I will remain committed to support our vision of leadership in building a quality community in Quezon City."

"I expect that my decision will give me the opportunity in the future to defend the principles that I stand for," Melendez said.

Jorja's answered ...

From page A29

passion for work.

She used to get very queasy whenever Sara is made to stitch pigskin or examine the contents of the stomach of a dead child.

"She is much smarter and courageous than I am," the actress said of her CSI character. "But I'm as focused as she is when it comes to my craft."

Fox started acting at age 6, and was involved mostly with independent theater productions when she was in high school.

She first appeared on NBC's top-rated series "ER" as the lesbian resident intern Dr. Maggie Doyle. She was also featured as the master thief Pallas in the futuristic film "Velocity Trap," and Delmar Youngblood in "Hungry Bachelors Club," a story about love and friendship.

Fox also played the role of secret service agent Gina Toscano in Aaron Sorkin's Emmy award-winning drama "The West Wing."

But her role as Sara is one of Fox's prayers that have been answered.

Tribute to commercial makers

From page A28

site which includes not just the profile and background but even the contact numbers of TV commercial directors.

"It's time to help the people who have helped me get to where I am now in the advertising world," he says. "With the emergence of top Filipino filmmakers and the presence of foreign directors in the local scene, we in advertising have to go global."

Selected videos

Vitt attests working on the website is not easy. He had to get permits from the multinational companies to show selected videos and even behind-the-scene clips of making the commercials.

The website also includes photos and the works of the directors.

Vitt laments how some commercial directors have retired without getting any recognition.

"Unlike in films, no one knows who the director of a TV ad is," he explains. "With this website, I am also enjoining others to open their respective websites to showcase their works."

Vitt cites **Dindo Angeles**, the man who helped catapult Lumen to national stardom.

"He (Dindo) brought out the humanity of our often-neglected hero, the housewife. Who would have thought that banking on an ordinary character would lead to extraordinary results?"

Great admirers

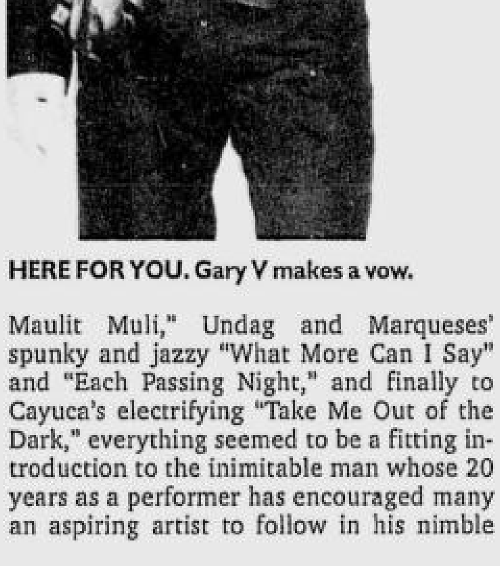
Jun Urbano, Mr. Shooli to most TV viewers, is *Tatay* **Banong**, the dean of advertising film directors, according to Vitt.

"Philippine commercials have achieved a world-class quality and are able to stand against their foreign counterparts because of him."

Vitt adds **Raul Jorolan** to his list of noted directors. Jorolan is someone who has the mind of a creative director.

"The marriage of both minds are clearly reflected in the commercials he makes. Because of him, TV ads have embraced that GenText feel that has become so popular among our biggest and most important audiences: the youth."

Vitt says that at the Ateneo de Manila University, where he was artistic director of Tanghalang Ateneo, **Jun Reyes** was a figure he looked up to. Reyes, he says, produced "some of the most astonishing commercials in local advertising," including Aga Muhlach's Jollibee series.



"I CAN FEEL IT." Jeric Soriano is one of the most beloved directors in the industry.

Vitt also counts **Jeric Soriano**, son of veteran actor **Nestor de Villa**, as one of the most beloved film directors in the advertising industry. It was Jeric who made **Alice Dixson** a household name with Palmolive soap's "I Can Feel It."

"All who have worked with Jeric have become great admirers and friends," Vitt says.

Manolo Abaya, who did **Vilma Santos**' Eskinol ads, is one of the most innovative directors. "He is also the most innovative person I've encountered," Vitt says. "Everything he does becomes an artistic expression of beauty. His work has helped define pop culture as we know it."

Another stalwart is the award-winning **Mandy Reyes**, who revolutionized food filmmaking in the country. "The industry is very grateful to his breakthrough achievements," says Vitt.

Maning Rivera is the original king of pomp and pageantry in Philippine advertising. "His commercials (like **Gloria Romero**'s Manang Biday for Superwheel) have made us all believe in dreams."

Dante Datu's commercials "are a celebration of life, making you want to join the party and celebrate life as well." He did San Miguel Beer's "She-Boom," with **Rachel Lobangco**.

Raymund Red has caught the attention of the world for his attention to detail and impeccable work. "I am one with the rest of the country standing in awe of this wonderful director and waiting for his future work," Vitt says.

Joey Agbayani's youth and vibrancy can be seen in his work, Vitt says.

Constantly changing

Mario Sarmiento reminds Vitt that advertising is constantly changing. "He brings in all the new ideas and created an even better advertising world."

Teddy Catuira focuses on dramatic commercials, "which make him truly someone to watch out for."

Yam Laranas may have made his mark in the movies, but his talents can also be seen in the commercials he makes. "His originality and creativity have made the world of advertising welcome him with open arms."

Henry Frejas has proven that even that young people are a force to reckon with. "His excellence should make all of us feel lucky to have him in our league."

Other established directors are **Socky Fernandez, Ona Diaz, Nap Jamir, Mae Paner, Pablo Biglang-Awa, Edward Go, G-Boy Vistan** and **Peque Gallaga.**

"We have to appreciate these people who give us a reprieve from all the worrying and the fretting that occupy us," Vitt says.

The website will also contain information about cinematographers, more aptly known as directors of photography, such as **Maning Roxas, Boy Yñiguez, Rody Lacap, Leslie Garchitorena**, the late **Conrado Baltazar** and **Vic Sempio**, the first Filipino cinematographer to do Hollywood commercials.

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

■ More entertainment pages on B9, B12-B13

FRIENDS IN THE COUNCIL. Actress and Quezon City Councilor Aiko Melendez (left) of the 2nd District with her best friend Lala Sotto of the 3rd District and Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte.

Aiko breaks away from city council majority group

By Leah Salterio

AFTER breaking away from the majority group in the Quezon City Council last week, Councilor Aiko Melendez of the city's 2nd district, called the attention of the group on what she described as its blatant disregard of established rules and parliamentary practice on the legislative process.

In a privilege speech last week before the council presided by Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, Melendez talked about the efficient discharge of mandate to prescribe policies.

"Although the rules have been manifested and reflected in the records of the city council, they remain suspended in an air of uncertainty up to this day," Melendez said in her speech, a copy of which she furnished the INQUIRER.

Independent

Melendez also declared herself "an independent councilor within the city council and free from any political alignment."

She said she made the decision because her colleagues at the committee on subdivision, housing and real estate, which she chairs, had approved housing projects without her consent.

"At the beginning of my term, I was proud to be a part of a council composed by a majority of young and committed leaders," Melendez said. "They represent the thirst of the people for change and social reform, a paradigm shift in leadership and governance. I now learn that idealism and dynamism should be coupled with an independent mind, not easily swayed by whispers and rumors."

She said that even if others regard her only as an actress she buckled down to work after she was elected to the council in 2001.

She said she learned the ropes of policy advocacy, public service and effective civil governance using her objectives in the acronym IDEAS—idealism, dynamism, energy, active learning and socialization.

"I did everything humanly possible to dispel misimpressions about my competence, integrity and sincerity to be of service," Melendez said.

Painful way

"My education did not stop with my degree. I am saddened and I (am) resigned to the fact that I have fallen prey to the implacable nature of politics. I have learned, although in a painful way, that politics (and idealism) make strange bedfellows."

Melendez also admitted the best lessons she has learned are about the harsh realities of life.

"I do not lay claim to be a seasoned politician, but I have been taught to be more street-smart by politicians," she said.

"I have extended my sincere hand in friendship. Now that friendship was negated by politics, I know better."

The actress said she is left with no choice but to concentrate on her sworn duty to serve and live up to the expectations of her constituency.

"I do not wish to waste the precious votes I have received," Melendez said. "I shall insulate myself from the adverse effects and dynamics of petty politics, but I will continue to commit myself to the service of our under-served and underprivileged masses."

Melendez said she will refuse to tolerate "unprofessional maneuvers by some of my colleagues in the city council."

Bickering

She noted how the bickering that has plagued the council had taken a toll on their efficiency as an institution.

"I acknowledge the efforts of those who have, in one way or another, brokered a logical and acceptable solution to this impasse," Melendez said. "I wish to contribute my two cents worth in this effort."

AIKO/ A30

Madonna pulls out anti-Bush video

LOS ANGELES—Acting "out of respect" for US armed forces in Iraq, pop star Madonna on Tuesday pulled the release of her controversial new music video, in which she tosses a hand grenade to a President George W. Bush look-alike.

The video, produced to accompany her new single "American Life," was issued outside the United States on Monday and had been circulated to American TV outlets such as "Access Hollywood" ahead of its US premiere, which had been slated for Friday on the cable music channel VH-1.

But Madonna, who in the past has outraged many with her mix of frank sexuality and religious symbolism in the video genre she helped popularize 20 years ago, said in a statement she decided to withdraw her 4 1/2-minute video after it became "the subject of rumors and misinformation."

"It was filmed before the war started, and I do not believe it is appropriate to air it at this time," the singer wrote.

Sensitivity

"Due to the volatile state of the world and out of sensitivity and respect to the armed forces, who I support and pray for, I do not want to risk offending anyone who might misinterpret the meaning of this video."

The accompanying song, which has just been released to radio stations, is the title track and first single from her next album due to come out on April 22 from Warner Bros. Records, a unit of media company AOL Time Warner Inc.

The single includes the lyrics: "I'd like to express my extreme point-of-view/I'm not a Christian and I'm not a Jew/I'm just living out the American dream/And I just realized that nothing is what it seems."

The video has sparked controversy for its graphic war-related imagery, which Madonna said has been misinterpreted by some as being critical of the United States and the Bush administration. Instead, the Michigan-born "Material Girl" has insisted the production contains a pro-peace message.

The video opens at a fashion show of models strutting a catwalk in haute couture military fatigues, wearing army helmets, gas masks and necklaces of bullets and grenades. It continues with Madonna dressed in a military outfit crashing a camouflaged car into the stage, intercut with images of jets dropping bombs and fiery explosions.

Lucky

It also contains a scene in which Madonna tosses a grenade to a character who bears a striking resemblance to Bush and who uses it to light his cigar.

"I feel lucky to be an American citizen for many reasons, one of which is the right to express myself freely," Madonna said in a statement posted in February on her website (http://www.madonna.com).

"I am not anti-Bush. I am not pro-Iraq," she said. "I am pro-peace. I have written a song and created a video which expresses my feelings about our culture and values and illusions of what many people believe is the American dream—the perfect life."

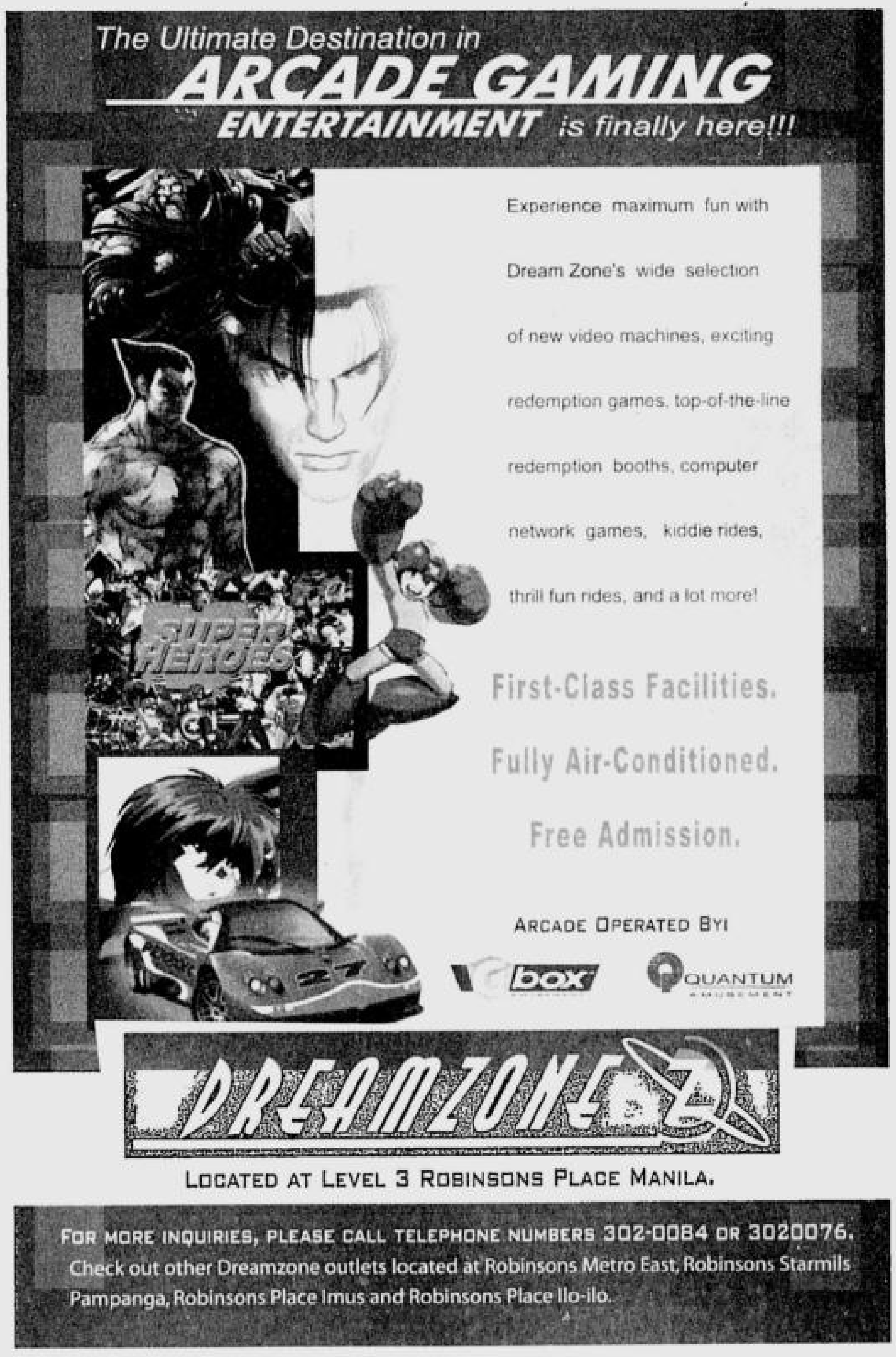
The 44-year-old entertainer added that she hoped the video would provoke "thought and dialogue" and did not expect everyone to agree with her point of view.

"I am grateful to have the freedom to express these feelings and that's how I honor my country," she said. *Reuters*

PRO-PEACE. Pop singer Madonna "lucky to be an American citizen."

In observance of the recently declared holidays, Enchanted Kingdom will be open from 10am to 10pm on April 7, Monday and April 16, Holy Wednesday. Holiday rates will apply on these dates.

On April 9, Wednesday (Bataan Day), the park will be open from 10am to 10pm with fireworks display at 9pm. Holiday rates apply.



The Ultimate Destination in ARCADE GAMING ENTERTAINMENT is finally here!!!

Experience maximum fun with Dream Zone's wide selection of new video machines, exciting redemption games, top-of-the-line redemption booths, computer network games, kiddie rides, thrill fun rides, and a lot more!

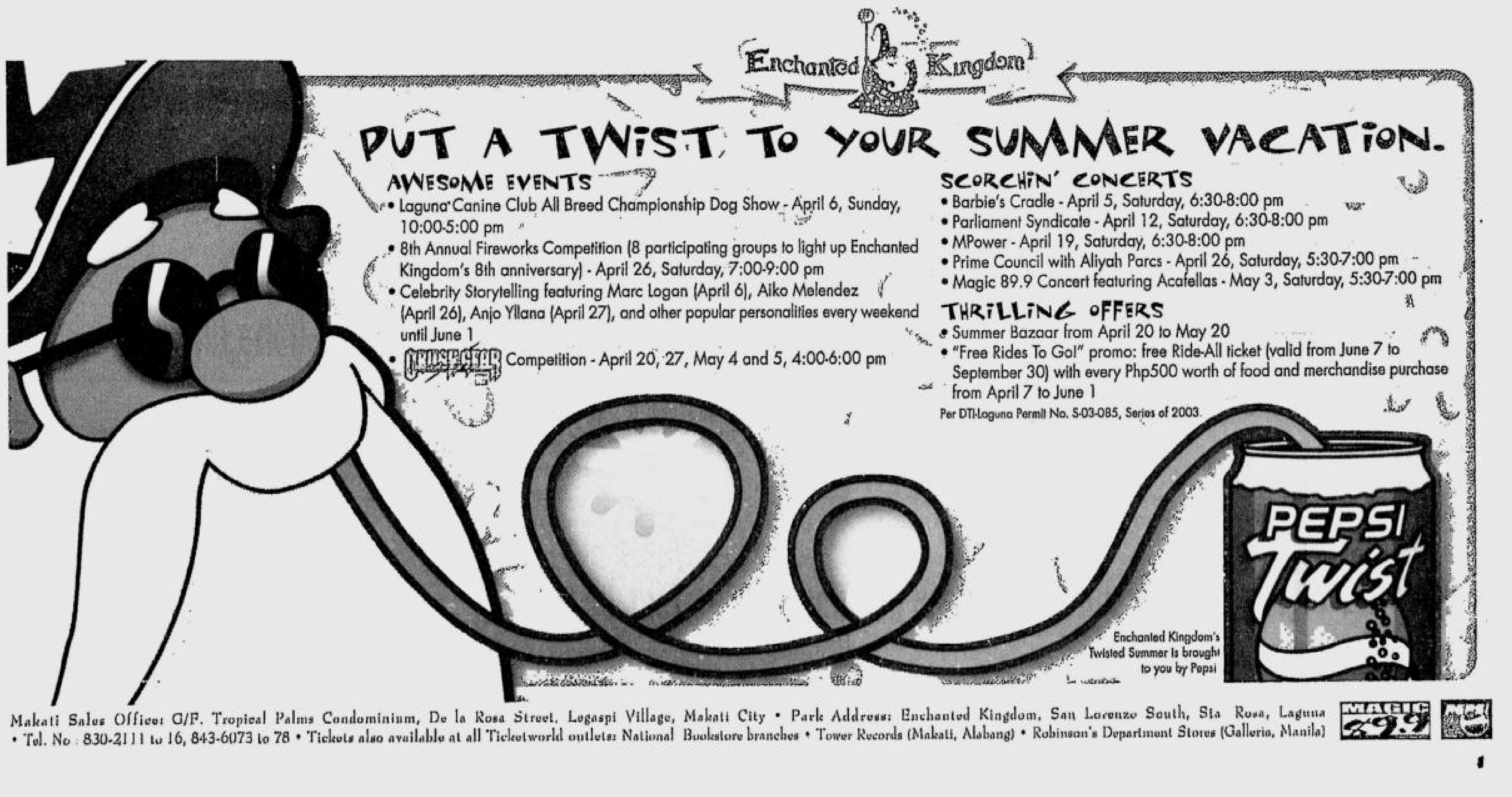
First-Class Facilities.
Fully Air-Conditioned.
Free Admission.

ARCADE OPERATED BY:

DREAMZONE

LOCATED AT LEVEL 3 ROBINSONS PLACE MANILA.

FOR MORE INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TELEPHONE NUMBERS 302-0084 OR 3020076. Check out other Dreamzone outlets located at Robinsons Metro East, Robinsons Starmills Pampanga, Robinsons Place Imus and Robinsons Place Ilo-ilo.



Enchanted Kingdom

PUT A TWIST TO YOUR SUMMER VACATION.

AWESOME EVENTS
- Laguna Canine Club All Breed Championship Dog Show - April 6, Sunday, 10:00-5:00 pm
- 8th Annual Fireworks Competition (8 participating groups to light up Enchanted Kingdom's 8th anniversary) - April 26, Saturday, 7:00-9:00 pm
- Celebrity Storytelling featuring Marc Logan (April 6), Aiko Melendez (April 26), Anjo Yllana (April 27), and other popular personalities every weekend until June 1
- CRUSH GEAR Competition - April 20, 27, May 4 and 5, 4:00-6:00 pm

SCORCHIN' CONCERTS
- Barbie's Cradle - April 5, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- Parliament Syndicate - April 12, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- MPower - April 19, Saturday, 6:30-8:00 pm
- Prime Council with Aliyah Parcs - April 26, Saturday, 5:30-7:00 pm
- Magic 89.9 Concert featuring Acafellas - May 3, Saturday, 5:30-7:00 pm

THRILLING OFFERS
- Summer Bazaar from April 20 to May 20
- "Free Rides To Go!" promo: free Ride-All ticket (valid from June 7 to September 30) with every Php500 worth of food and merchandise purchase from April 7 to June 1

Per DTI-Laguna Permit No. S-03-085, Series of 2003.

Enchanted Kingdom's Twisted Summer is brought to you by Pepsi

Makati Sales Office: G/F. Tropical Palms Condominium, De la Rosa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City • Park Address: Enchanted Kingdom, San Lorenzo South, Sta Rosa, Laguna • Tel. No: 830-2111 to 16, 843-6073 to 78 • Tickets also available at all Ticketworld outlets: National Bookstore branches • Tower Records (Makati, Alabang) • Robinson's Department Stores (Galleria, Manila)

Ang idol ng barkada, tiwala sa

TALK 'N TEXT™
GSM

Para kay Tito Dolphy, dapat

Maaasahan...

NATIONWIDEST!
Over 2,800 cellsites*

Malapit sa kaibigan...

Call & Text to over 15 Million GSM Subscribers**

At kuhang-kuha ang hilig mo!

Over 250 zed SERVICES

*SMART network
** Includes GSM carriers aside from Talk 'N Text and SMART.

Kaya ikaw diyan, 'wag na kung saan-saan pa! Mag-Talk 'N Text ka na!

Yan ang galing without overspending!

For inquiries, please call (02)888-1111(GMA), 1-800-1888-2220(Vis/Min) or *888 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK

DotPH Webhosting.
- Fast.
- Reliable.
- Secure.

www.dot.PH
The Official Domain Registry of the Philippines

FRIDAY,
APRIL 4, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph • Website: www.inq7money.net

BUSINESS

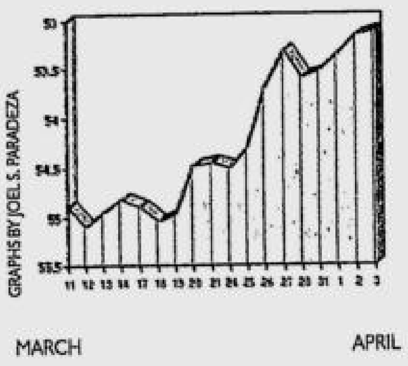
Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

STOP HAIR LOSS.
SAVE YOUR HAIR.
Call Svenson now! 243-0128

Iraq war halts global recovery–World Bank

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



GRAPHS BY JOEL S. PARADEZA

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 53.11 = $1

As of 5 p.m., April 3, 2003

¥ 118.88 = $1

As of 5 p.m., April 3, 2003

GOLD: $327.50-328.00

per ounce Hong Kong, April 3, 2003

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end up on Iraq hopes

STOCKS ended higher yesterday, shrugging off another deadly bombing in Davao City, with investors encouraged to hunt for bargains as signs emerged of a quick end to the war in Iraq, traders said.

STOCKS/ B4

WASHINGTON—The Iraq war is delaying a global recovery just as the authorities run low on ammunition to stir growth, the World Bank warned yesterday.

The Iraq war has cast a shadow over the economic and political landscape for months, said the bank's Global Development Finance 2003 report, drawn up in the run-up to combat.

"The recovery in the global economy has likely been delayed further while downside risks have risen, especially for countries in and around the Middle East," it said.

Economic growth would be sluggish even if the Iraq war was resolved quickly, it said.

World economic output was expected to expand 2.3 percent in 2003, up from 1.7 percent growth last year.

Growth in rich countries was set to rise to 1.9 percent this year from 1.4 percent last year. In developing countries, growth would accelerate to 4 percent in 2003 from 3.1 percent.

The threats of terror, deflation and a war-related rise in oil prices menaced an otherwise bright outlook for East Asian economies, the World Bank noted.

East Asia and Pacific economies are expected to grow 6.4 percent this year, slightly down from 6.7 percent in 2002.

Exceptions to the rosy outlook were Hong Kong and Singapore, where growth had faltered, and Indonesia, still reeling from the Oct. 12, 2002, bombing of a Bali nightclub in which 202 people were killed. The spread of the deadly flu-like viral disease is also adding to the pessimism in these economies.

Industrialized nations had boosted fiscal stimulus and cut interest rates, cushioning the world from an even sharper slump, the bank said.

These measures, however, had also deepened deficits.

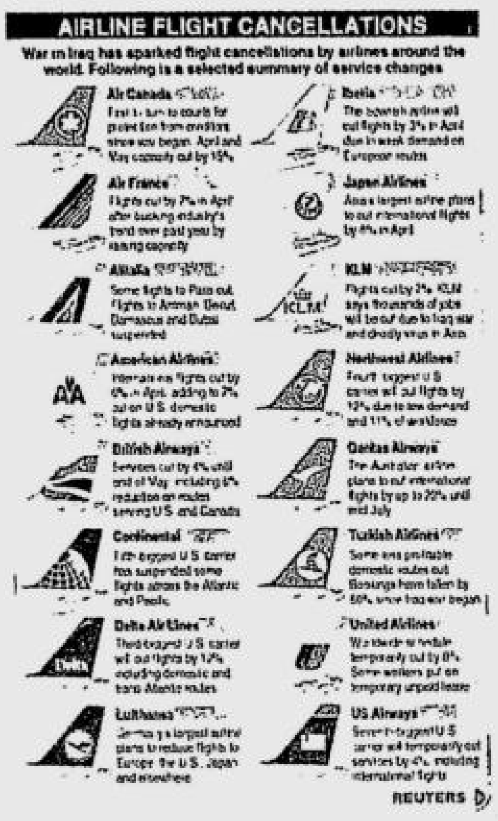
The US current account deficit—its shortfall in overall financial dealings with the outside world—had expanded to an unprecedented 5 percent of annual gross domestic product (GDP).

"In this challenging financial environment, the global rebound is lacking sectoral and geographical balance," the report said.

Policymakers now had less space to cut taxes, boost spending or lower interest rates, it said.

"A worrisome characteristic of the current economic environment is that macroeconomic policies may be running up against their limits," the World Bank report said.

IRAQ/ B4



AIRLINE FLIGHT CANCELLATIONS

War in Iraq has sparked flight cancellations by airlines around the world. Following is a selected summary of service changes

Air Canada
First to turn to courts for protection from creditors since war began. April and May capacity cut by 15%

Air France
Flights cut by 7% in April after bucking industry's trend over past year by raising capacity

Alitalia
Some flights to Paris cut. Flights to Amman, Beirut, Damascus and Dubai suspended

American Airlines
International flights cut by 6% in April, adding to 7% cut on U.S. domestic flights already announced

British Airways
Services cut by 4% until end of May, including 6% reduction on routes serving U.S. and Canada

Continental
Fifth-biggest U.S. carrier has suspended some flights across the Atlantic and Pacific

Delta Air Lines
Third-biggest U.S. carrier will cut flights by 12% including domestic and trans-Atlantic routes

Lufthansa
Germany's largest airline plans to reduce flights to Europe, the U.S., Japan and elsewhere

Iberia
The Spanish airline will cut flights by 3% in April due to weak demand on European routes

Japan Airlines
Asia's largest airline plans to cut international flights by 4% in April

KLM
Flights cut by 2%. KLM says thousands of jobs will be cut due to Iraq war and deadly virus in Asia

Northwest Airlines
Fourth-biggest U.S. carrier will cut flights by 12% due to low demand and 11% of workforce

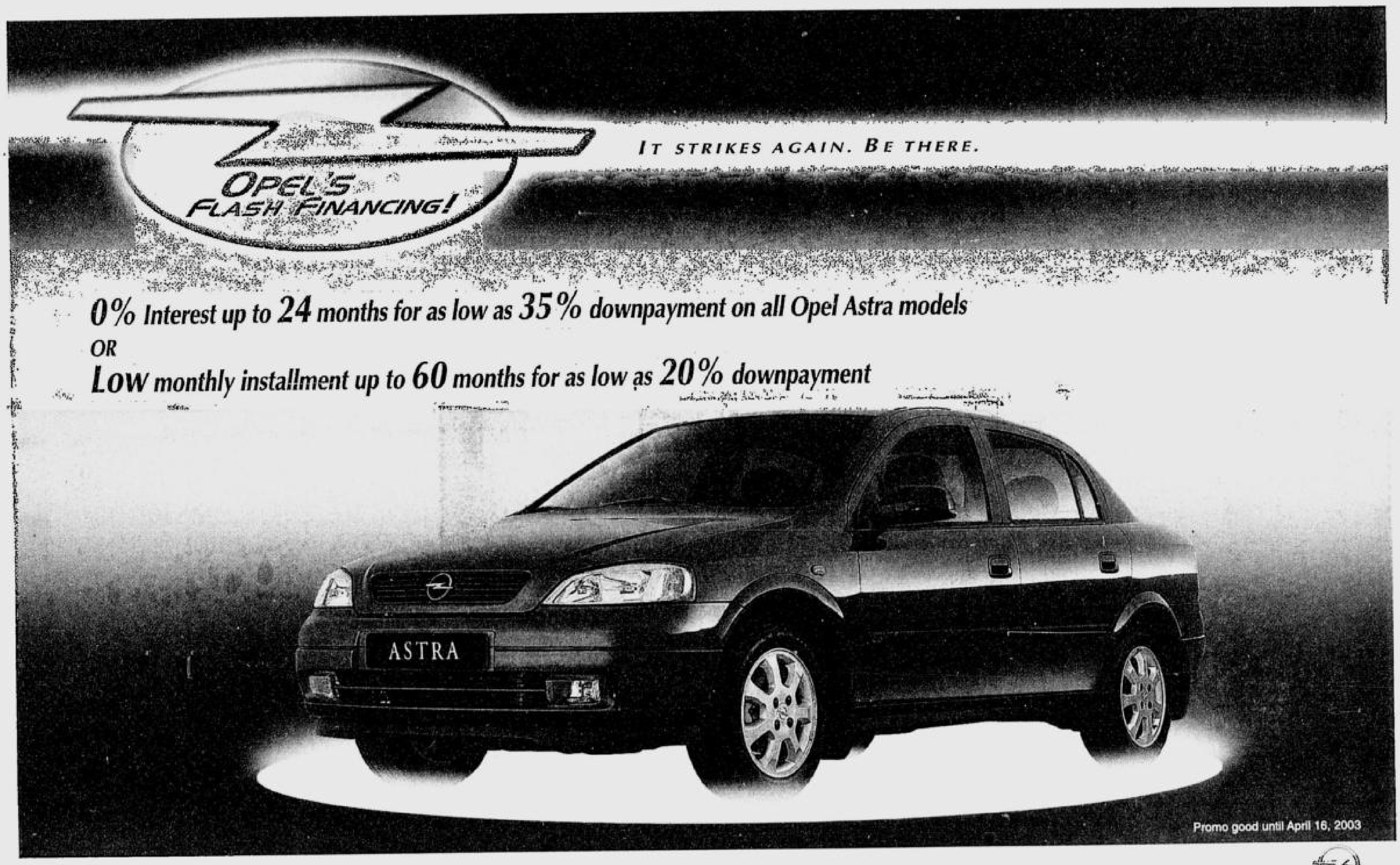
Qantas Airways
The Australian airline plans to cut international flights by up to 20% until mid-July

Turkish Airlines
Some less profitable domestic routes cut. Bookings have fallen by 50% since Iraq war began

United Airlines
Worldwide schedule temporarily cut by 8%. Some workers put on temporary unpaid leave

US Airways
Seventh-biggest U.S. carrier will temporarily cut services by 4%, including international flights

REUTERS


OPEL'S FLASH FINANCING!
IT STRIKES AGAIN. BE THERE.

0% Interest up to 24 months for as low as 35% downpayment on all Opel Astra models
OR
Low monthly installment up to 60 months for as low as 20% downpayment

ASTRA

Promo good until April 16, 2003

Visit your nearest GM Autoworld now.
Subject to financing approval from any of these banks: BPI Family Savings Bank Inc., China Bank, Philippine Savings Bank, RCBC Savings Bank, UCPB Savings Bank, Union Bank.

See the 2003 Opel Astra at
www.generalmotors.com.ph

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2296 Don Chino Roces Ave.,
(formerly Pasong Tamo) Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 867-8183 to 87 / 817-8055
817-8059

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 374-1250 to 59 / 413-8133
372-8001, 415-8878
Fax No.: 372-8008

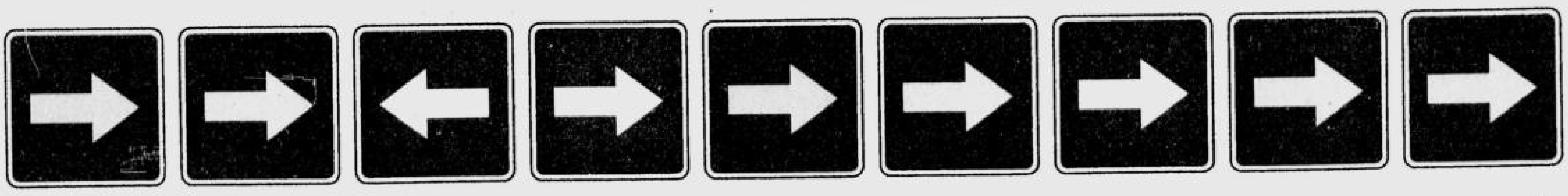
GM AutoWorld SHAW
500 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 535-4944 / 535-4938
533-1263
Fax No.: 535-4937 / 535-4935

GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
MacArthur Highway, Dolores,
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. Nos.: (045) 961-2002, (045) 860-2000
Tel/Fax No.: (045) 961-2003

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Gov. Cuenco Ave., Cebu City
Tel. No.: (32) 234-0426
Fax No.: (32) 231-7760

GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

AutoWorld
Per DTI-NCR permit no. 0575, series of 2003


To avoid getting stuck in traffic, plan your summer trips well. Know the best routes to take, check for alternative roads, or visit a trip planner online.

PETRON-PNCC
LAKBAY ALALAY
2003

PNCC Advisory: Portions of the North Luzon tollway are currently under construction to provide you safer and smoother travel
For your information and convenience: 1) Light traffic hours along the NLT are from 11 am to 3 pm & 10 pm to 4 am. 2) Heavy traffic hours (peak hours) are from 6 am to 9 am & 5 pm to 9 pm 3) Counterflow travel time delay along Candaba Viaduct to San Fernando (where construction is presently ongoing) takes from one to one and a half hours.

PNCC PETRON

REVERSAL FROM FEBRUARY

Portfolio investments reach $16.8M in March

By Clarissa S. Batino

FOREIGN portfolio investments in March yielded a net inflow of $16.8 million, reversing a $1.6-million net outflow in February, as rising interest rates encouraged investors to place modest funds in the Philippines' financial markets.

Data submitted to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas by five custodian banks showed that in the first three months of the year, net inflow stood at a modest $34.3 million from $96.9 million during the same period last year.

In March alone, net inflow slid 33 percent from $25.1 million the previous year.

While the local currency remained weak in the first two weeks of March—dropping to a record closing low of 55.099 to a dollar on March 12—local interest rates had begun moving up.

The benchmark 91-day treasury bill rate rose to its highest level in 14 months to 7.145 percent on Monday, as the central bank decided to scrap the tiering system on overnight borrowing that paid a decreasing rate on bank deposits.

Government officials admit interest rates will continue to rise and, while unfavorable for state financing, provide incentives to foreign fund managers.

Foreign portfolio funds are normally invested in stocks, government securities, mutual funds and insurance.

The level of inbound funds in the first three months plunged to $174.7 million against $375.5 million in the first quarter of 2002.

Outbound funds also fell to $140.4 million in the first quarter from $278.6 million a year earlier.

The inflow of $50.2 million and outflow of $33.4 million in March are three times lower than the $146 million and $120.9 million a year ago, although the level of inbound funds has slightly improved from $45 million in February.

Net portfolio investments grew 194 percent last year to $202 million against $68.7 million in 2001.

Analysts said investors everywhere were jittery over the uncertain global situation, although risks in the local market were seen to be greater given the volatile local currency and wobbly fiscal sector.

Still, the central bank said it was expecting more portfolio funds in the coming months, alongside an increase in foreign direct investment, as the economy continued to perform well despite the challenges.

The economy grew 5.8 percent in the fourth quarter. The government said gross domestic product should improve by between 4 and 4.5 percent in the first quarter.

Return on investments, people participation in agriculture

By Ernesto O. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

THE UNTAPPED potential of agriculture in the Philippines is amazing. The high but not sufficiently recognized return on investment, or ROI, in this important sector should encourage more investments and optimal resource allocation.

High ROI projects

Consider the following examples:

- For P650 worth of certified seeds in a hectare, palay yield increased nationally from an average of 3.2 to 4.5 tons in the program areas of the Department of Agriculture. At the conservatively low assumed price of P7 a kilo, this is an additional P9,100 in revenue.
- For P1,000 worth of organic fertilizer added to the usual chemical fertilizer, average palay yield per hectare increased in Bohol by 1.5 tons. This is an additional P10,500 in income.
- My own personal experience using certified sweet potato planting material from the Visayas College of Agriculture worth P3,300 yielded 25 tons per hectare. This is five times the national average yield from traditional planting material. At P2 a kilo, this meant an additional income of P40,000 in just three months.

The above are decisions taken by individuals for their respective farms. But for group projects, organized people participation as mandated by law can help in optimal resource allocation to support high ROI projects.

'Pagkain Para Sa Masa'

There was a very successful integrated group project that was motivated by the severe El Niño experience in late 1997 and early 1998. During that time, upland farmers faced severe food shortages in several areas of Mindanao. Because of this, thousands of upland farmers picketed NFA warehouses asking for rice in Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and General Santos City. Desperate farmers even resorted to eating an indigenous poisonous crop called *kayos*, which resulted in several deaths.

To address this problem, a program for Mindanao upland farmers was conceptualized by Professors Edwin and Rosa Fe Hondrade of the University of Southern Mindanao; Dr. Virgilio Oliva, USM president; and Dr. Santiago Obien, then executive director of Phil Rice. The program, called "Pagkain Para Sa Masa," involved the collaboration of various agencies involved in food production such as the USM, Department of Agriculture, local government units, farm associations, and non-government organizations.

It entailed providing access of planting materials for upland rice, corn, root crops (cassava, sweet potato, taro, etc.) vegetables, fruit trees and native chicken. The distribution of these products was accompanied with training through the Upland Public Education Campaign. "Pagkain Para Sa Masa" became a replicable model of the Research, Production, and Extension strategy in Mindanao. USM acted as the national and regional center for various crops which screened the best upland rice, root crops, and vegetables. These were then given to farmers in specially packed planting material packages complete with technical advice. A memo of cooperation was signed by 48 municipal mayors and 470 barangay captains committing at least a hectare in their respective areas to set up food nurseries. This included a replication and distribution component providing the multiplier effect for the project.

Results

Through the multiplication of planting materials and native chicken, approximately 5,000 targeted families who ate an average of only one meal a day were able to eat three meals. Assuming six members of the family at an assumed low price of P4 per meal, this translates to an annual return for the P3.5-million investment of P87.6 million. Unfortunately, other than a replication done in Camp Abu Bakar to help the victims of the MILF conflict, this project did not get any other significant support. It lost out to other projects with lower ROIs in a manner that was not transparent to the community.

People participation

Unlike some other departments in government, the DA is fortunate in having people participation mandated by law. In Executive Order 116, it stipulates that "the National Agriculture and Fishery Council shall act as an advisory body and serve as the forum for consultative and continuing discussions within the agriculture sector." In addition, "it shall be replicated down to the regional, provincial and municipal levels." Stakeholders, such as small farmers and fisherfolk, are therefore entitled to a voice in the decision making process.

Today, the Agriculture and Fisheries Councils are consulted on selected projects of the DA. To follow the spirit of the law that encourages people participation, it is recommended that these councils be given the total picture of not only all the DA programs and their corresponding budgets but also those of the LGUs. The councils can then discuss and recommend the projects with high ROIs for priority resource allocation. In this case, ROI is defined in the broader sense of socio-economic returns, with investments including non monetary inputs. With the combination of ROI consciousness and more meaningful people participation through the Agriculture and Fisheries Councils, high ROI programs, like "Pagkain Para Sa Masa," will get a more appropriate and bigger share of scarce resources. Only then will the untapped potential of agriculture be fully realized in our country.

The author is chair of Agriwatch and a former undersecretary of the Department of Agriculture and Department of Trade and Industry. For inquiries or suggestions, e-mail agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax 02-8516635

Palay harvest to hit 5.8M metric tons

AGRICULTURE officials are expecting a better-than-expected first semester palay harvest of 5.8 million metric tons on assessments that the effects of the El Niño weather disturbance have been not as severe as anticipated.

The Department of Agriculture and the National Food Authority said the forecast meant an increase in the country's rice production.

Last year, rice farms only produced some 5.6 million metric tons.

"There are initial indications that palay harvests in the first six months could hit 5.8 million metric tons as compared to the 5.6 million metric tons made last year," NFA Deputy Administrator Gregorio Tan Jr. said in a news conference yesterday.

The projected increase in palay harvests in the first half may allow the Philippines to achieve its target of 14.2 million metric tons this year, allowing the government to depend less on imports. *Christine A. Gaylican*

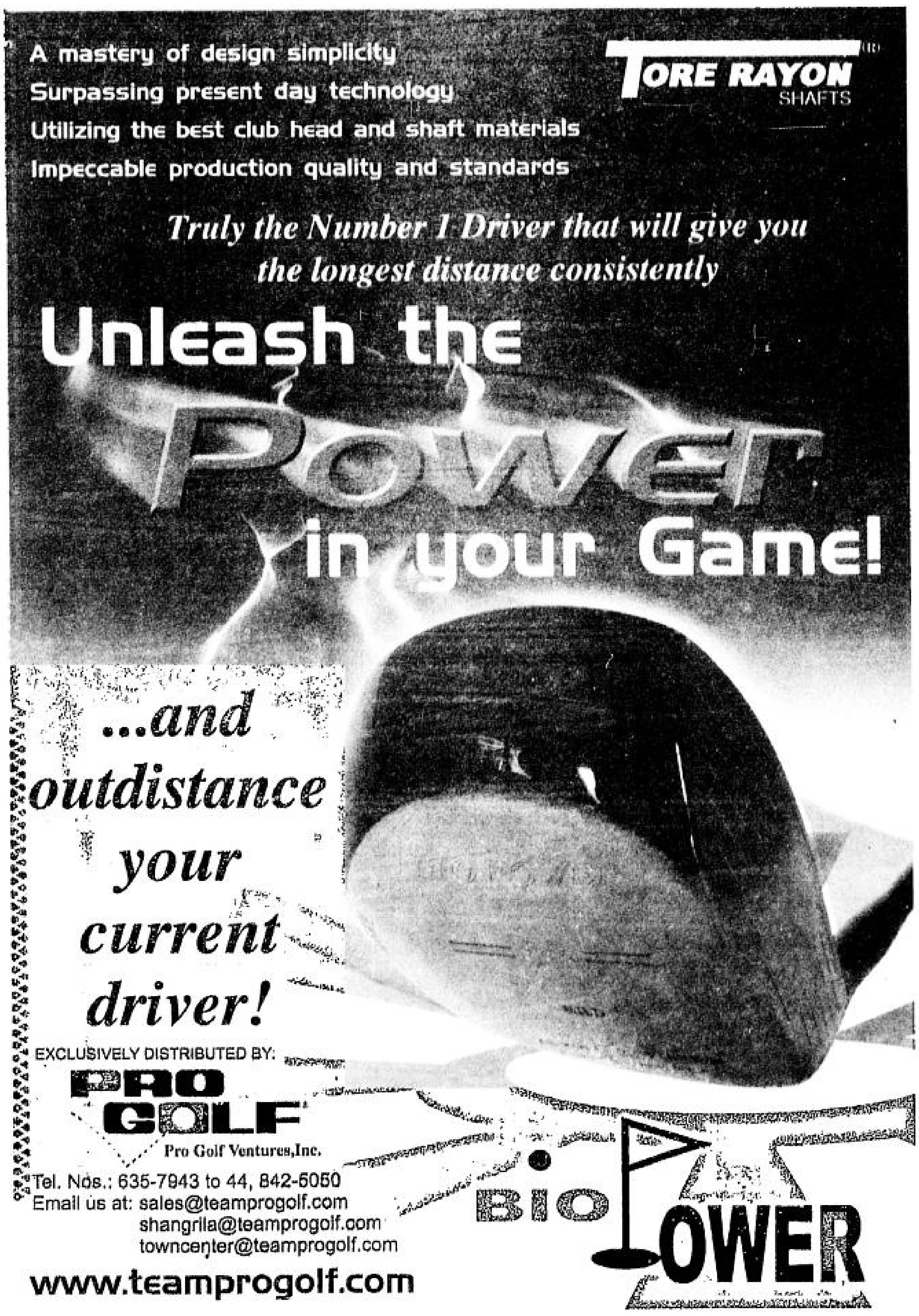
TAIWAN TRADE MISSION TO THE PHILIPPINES

Welcome to attend the one-on-one Trade Meeting with the Mission Members
Venue: Ballroom, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati Avenue, Makati City
Date & Time: April 7, 2003, Monday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

For more information, please contact Ms. Luz Nodora, Taipei Economic & Cultural Office
Tel. 812-2014(5) • Fax:817-7321 (FREE ENTRY)

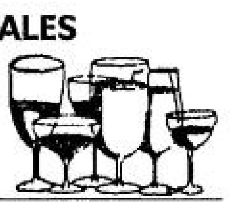
The following industries & items are looking for Trading Partners & Agents.

1. AUDIO & VIDEO
   - Home theaters, in-wall/ceiling speakers
   - P.A. speakers, car audio (speakers and amplifiers)
   - active subwoofers
2. AUTOMOTIVE PARTS & ACCESSORIES
   - Coil springs, torsion bars, stabilizers
   - Battery & AC testing, service equipments
   - Pedal pads, gear knobs, gear frames
   - mirrors, fan motors, cool fan motors
   - Non-woven, for automotive interior carpet
   - Oil seals, o'rings, rubber parts
   - Pedal pads, gear knobs, gear frames
3. CAMERAS
   - Cameras, digital cameras, binoculars
   - Stand alone remote surveillance cameras
   - built-in IP, built-modem
4. COMPUTERS & PERIPHERALS
   - Accessories to ergonomic computer keyboard supports, monitor racks,
   - CPU stands, infrared model
   - PC-104 industrial modems
   - Modem modules, computers
   - VOIP gateway
5. ELECTRICALS & APPLIANCES
   - Electric fans, fan guards, all fan parts
   - Indoor lamps, phone jacks, slide switches
   - tact switches, detect switches, trimmers
   - Electric scales, electric balances, platform scales
   - Indicators, Instruments
6. FOOD SEASONING
   - Soy sauce/pastes
   - Vegetarian, mushroom, oyster
7. FOOTWEAR
   - Footwear wholesale
8. FURNITURE HARDWARE
   - furniture fitting (screws, drawers, runners)
   - Cabinet hardwares (door handles, concealed hinges drawer runners, etc.) Building furnitures and hardwares
   - Slide switches, tact switches, detect switches, trimmers
9. GARDEN TOOLS
   - Garden tools, water systems, water sprayers
10. HARDWARE
   - Wrapping ropes and cable fillers, Forged works, phone jacks
   - pumps, leaf springs, fastener clips, fans, blowers, ventilators, measuring tapes, screw drivers, steel coil, socket wrenches, staple guns, saws, aluminum coil
11. HOUSEHOLD & BEAUTY ITEMS
   - Household carpets, cleaner parts, vacuum cleaners
   - Steam cleaners, hair clippers, pet clippers
   - nose trimmers, eyebrow trimmers
12. LOCKS
   - Padlocks, color key blanks, cylinders, brass key blanks
   - aluminum key blanks, security safe
   - combination and key locks for safe, door locksets
   - switch locks, cam locks, security components and special purpose machines for security product manufacturing, artistic brass door handles & locks
13. MACHINERY & ACCESSORIES
   - Woodworking machinery, plastic commodities for injection molding, blown films & foaming products
   - Drill presses, scroll saws, portable wood trimmers
   - Band saws, mini wood lathes, air compressors, packing machines, plastic injection molds for the electronics
   - Paper tube machinery, slitting and rewinding machines
   - Spiral tube winding machine, cutting machines, finishing machines for paper tube in textile industry, composite container machinery, aluminum composite panel production line equipments, packing machinery
   - Coating line equipments, sheet laminating line equipments
   - Stainless steel sheet surface mirror polishing, hair line and art etching finish processing line equipments, shoe making machines, sporting equipment, bench grinder, mini air compressor, blower
   - All kinds of machinery & equipment
14. SANITARY WARES
   - Sanitary Wares, mixers, bath tubs
   - mirrors and other accessories
15. SPORTING GOODS
   - Swimming goggles, sporting equipment
16. STATIONERIES & OFFICE SUPPLIES
   - Ball point pens, watches, gifts
   - rolling pens, fountain pens, mechanical pencils
   - floral tapes, corrugated papers, gift wrapping papers, crepe art wrapping papers, security papers, punchbines machines, paper punches
   - Key cases, correction fluid & pens, newspaper and Magazine stands, office stationery, etc.
17. TOOLS, HANDTOOLS
   - Cordless power tools, screw driver, bits parts, washers, hexesen wrenches, tool chests
   - Tool cabinets, terminals, connectors, cable ties
   - Cable lugs, timers, criming tools, plastic molds
   - Blind rivets, rivet tools, blind nuts, nut tools, molds
   - Tool brushes, bristles, fasteners, toolings


A mastery of design simplicity
Surpassing present day technology
Utilizing the best club head and shaft materials
Impeccable production quality and standards
TORE RAYON SHAFTS
Truly the Number 1 Driver that will give you the longest distance consistently
Unleash the Power in your Game!
...and outdistance your current driver!
EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY:
PRO GOLF
Pro Golf Ventures,Inc.
Tel. Nos.: 635-7943 to 44, 842-6050
Email us at: sales@teamprogolf.com
shangrila@teamprogolf.com
towncenter@teamprogolf.com
www.teamprogolf.com
BIO POWER

Undercurrents in Urdaneta

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

THE NORMALLY neighborly board elections for the Urdaneta Village homeowners' association is turning out to be a highly charged partisan fight.

The unspoken rule in the exclusive village is that an incumbent board is allowed to stay on for three years despite the supposed annual voting exercise.

But the year-old all-female board of Tessie Yupangco, Victoria Carballo, Maritess Suplico, Frannie Jacinto, and female-chaser Rodolfo Cuenca is now being challenged head-on by six-termer Randy Limjuco, backed by his *kagawad* (barangay councilor) wife, Cecille.

Limjuco's slate includes Noreen Trota, Dr. Benjamin Alimurung, and Jerry Tiu. His other candidate, Antonino Alindogan Jr., decided he did not want the headache and backed out.

According to the grapevine, Limjuco is particularly irritated at the current board whom he suspects as having leaked to Cocktales a shooting incident last year.

In that incident, an elderly Urdaneta resident, Lourdes Eristingcol, has filed a court case against the Limjucos after a Camp Crame ballistic report concluded that the bullet that hit the Eristingcol home was fired from the Limjuco house across the street.

Despite being incumbents, the all-female board feels it is running an uphill battle in the April 10 elections considering that, among others, the Limjuco wife has built a network among the matronas in the village with her P250,000/year ballroom dancing budget—enabling the *kagawad* to hold weekly dancing lessons in the village—provided by the City Hall.

Good fences make good neighbors

FORMER UP Law professor Soledad Cagampang-de Castro and her lawyer husband Arturo de Castro have been ordered ejected by the Nasugbu Municipal Trial Court from a neighbor's beachfront property the De Castros forcibly fenced off last year.

In addition, Judge Rolando Silang ordered the De Castros to pay their neighbors, Enrique and Josephine Zabarte, P5,000 a month in restitution from April 2002 when they built at gunpoint a hollow block fence on the disputed property, thus eating up about 960 square meters of the Zabarte land.

The De Castros, who claimed that they own the disputed property and that they were merely tolerating the Zabartes' possession prior to selling the property to them, said they would appeal the decision.

But still, Judge Silang said, quoting a Supreme Court decision, the De Castros should not have resorted to "force, intimidation, threat, strategy or stealth" to forcibly re-acquire the land, especially since they had consented in writing to the Zabartes' improvements on them.

"Possession of a piece of property maybe wholly precarious or unrighteous, yet if the possessor has in favor priority of time, he has this security, that he is entitled to stay upon the property until he is put off lawfully by a person having better right," said a Supreme Court ruling, promulgated way back in 1910.

Meanwhile, the disbarment case filed against the lawyer-couple had been thrown out by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, which ruled that the De Castros had acted as "private citizens," not as lawyers, when they forcibly took over the disputed property.

"What the IBP decision means is that lawyers may now take the law into their own hands and get away with illegal acts," said Enrique Zabarte.

The Zabartes, residents of Valle Verde, own the Sacred Heart School in Novaliches.

Ambassadorial wrath

DASMARIÑAS Village Association president, former Ambassador Isabel Caro Wilson, is determined to rid the rich enclave of unauthorized nurseries and kindergartens once and for all.

According to the pro-Wilson grapevine, the former diplomat is serious in finally ejecting two "illegal" preschools in the subdivision, the International Center for Beginning Beginners (ICBB) and Little Tots.

Wilson is particularly singling out ICBB since the school allegedly has been playing hide-and-seek with the Dasma board for the last seven years, renting out different houses within the village year after year in a dodged effort to elude an ejection order from the board.

Heard through the grapevine

A NEW York-based investment banker is being suspected by Malacañang as the source of the recent leaks trying to implicate the First Family to an alleged shakedown attempt against the German principals of the controversial NAIA Terminal 3 project.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

Gov't to auction IS property in June

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE INTER-AGENCY Privatization Council has approved the sale in June of the government's 4.5-hectare prime property in Makati that used to house the International School.

One of the first big-ticket items scheduled for privatization this year, the property was originally valued at P45,000 per square meter or about P2 billion.

Selling the real estate at a good price would allow the government to meet its P1-billion privatization target for the year.

In 2002, the state sold less than P500 million worth of assets although an additional P1 billion in revenue from the sale a year ago of its stake in Philippine Phosphate and Fertilizer Corp. came in during the year.

Before the local government of Makati expressed its interest to buy the property last year, at least three big names including Ayala Land Inc. and Robinson's Land were reportedly keen on the former IS lot.

Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto said the government was still waiting for a second appraisal before they could put an indicative price on the property.

"We will publish the notices by the third week of April," Recto said.

The government had been trying to sell the IS property during the last three years but an anemic real estate sector had stymied government efforts to sell the land.

The International School vacated the property in year 2000 when its lease with the government expired.

The Makati City had withdrawn from an earlier plan to buy the prime lot although Recto was not ruling out the possibility that the local government would bid for the property in June.

BOC exceeds 1st quarter goal

THE BUREAU of Customs (BOC) announced that it has collected P26.796 billion for the first quarter of this year, overshooting its target by P4.269 billion.

The first-quarter collection was also 19 percent higher than the P20.701 billion collected in the same period last year.

Actual collection for March reached P9.098 billion, exceeding the P7.816-billion forecast by P1.282 billion. The March collection was also 16.4 percent higher than the March 2002 collection of P6.982 billion.

"All major ports have continued to post record performances, and we are optimistic that the BOC will continue to meet its targets," said Customs Commissioner Antonio M. Bernardo.

The first quarter collection has put the national government on track and kept the deficit within its target.

The government is targeting a budget deficit of P55.2 billion in the first quarter, and P202 billion for the whole year

Local telecom firms hit US agency's order

By Ronnel W. Domingo

LOCAL telecommunications firms said a March 31 order from the US Federal Communications Commission telling US telcos to resume payments to local telcos amounted to "a real case of 'whipsawing'" or pitting one firm against another for better deals.

Lawyer Rogelio Quevedo, chief of Smart Communications Inc.'s legal affairs, noted that the US FCC order allowed for the resumption of payments to only two local telcos—Bayan Telecommunications (BayanTel) and Digital Telecommunications (Digitel).

"They want the local telcos fighting. We are the ones being whipsawed," Quevedo said.

In March, the US FCC ordered all US telcos to stop payments to Philippine telcos for calls received here. The order was based on complaints filed by AT&T and WorldCom accusing six Philippine telcos of whipsawing and that the latter were blocking their circuits against calls from the United States.

On Monday, the US FCC lifted the suspension of payments to Philippine telcos after AT&T and WorldCom reported that connections with BayanTel and Digitel were online again.

National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) chief Armi Jane Borje said the latest US FCC order also seemed to show conflict.

"One (US telco) said there was no blocking from the very start. This supports the NTC stand that our telcos have said they are not blocking (calls from the US)," Borje said.

PRULINK	PRU LIFE U.K.	
VARIABLE LIFE	Current Week April 01, 2003	Last Week March 25, 2003
Prulink Bond Fund	1.04470	1.04332
Prulink Managed Fund	1.01559	1.01124

* Note: PRULINK Funds were launched last September 18 2002

3-DAY SALE
(April 4, 5, 6, 2003)

TRAVEL NEBULIZER
NERVE STIMULATOR
WRIST BLOOD PRESURE MONITOR
WHEELCHAIR

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MANILA 5th Floor
484-1471 • 635-0436 • 453-3326

At the Richmonde, we've *mastered* the art of successful meetings.

Meet where successful meetings happen.
At the Richmonde, our well-equipped conference rooms, impeccable personal service and stress-free environment are perfect for every business function.

LIVE-IN PACKAGES
P3,200.00 net
Single Occupancy
P2,000.00 net
per person
Twin Sharing

- Overnight stay in a Superior room with breakfast buffet
- Two snacks and set lunch
- Minimum of 10 rooms

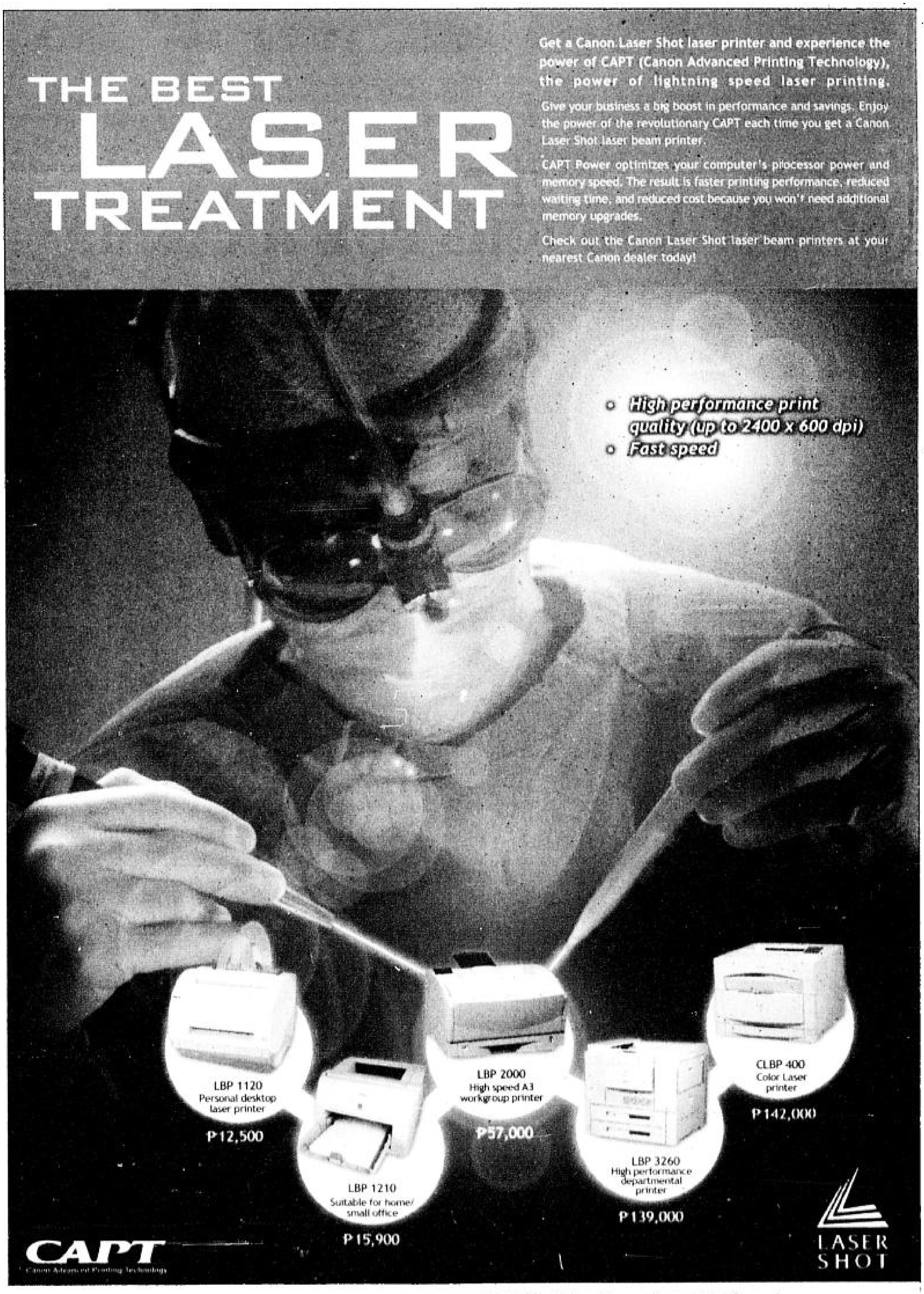
LIVE-OUT PACKAGES
From P640.00 net
per person
Two snacks and set lunch for minimum of 15 persons
From P750.00 net
per person
Two snacks and buffet lunch for minimum of 30 persons

For inquiries and reservations, please call:
Room Sales: 638-777 ext. 3909
or 638-8878/6384650 (fax)
Banquet Sales: 638-8431/689-8430 (fax)

THE RICHMONDE HOTEL
Distinctly Richmonde. Distinctly Personal.

Utell

21 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600, Metro Manila, Philippines • Tel: (632) 638-7777
Fax: (632) 638-8567 • E-mail: trh@richmondehotel.com.ph • Web Site: www.richmondehotel.com



THE BEST LASER TREATMENT

Get a Canon Laser Shot laser printer and experience the power of CAPT (Canon Advanced Printing Technology), the power of lightning speed laser printing.

Give your business a big boost in performance and savings. Enjoy the power of the revolutionary CAPT each time you get a Canon Laser Shot laser beam printer.

CAPT Power optimizes your computer's processor power and memory speed. The result is faster printing performance, reduced waiting time, and reduced cost because you won't need additional memory upgrades.

Check out the Canon Laser Shot laser beam printers at your nearest Canon dealer today!

- High performance print quality (up to 2400 x 600 dpi)
- Fast speed

LBP 1120
Personal desktop laser printer
P12,500

LBP 1210
Suitable for home/small office
P15,900

LBP 2000
High speed A3 workgroup printer
P57,000

LBP 3260
High performance departmental printer
P139,000

CLBP 400
Color Laser printer
P142,000

CAPT
Canon Advanced Printing Technology

LASER SHOT

CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC. MARVIN PLAZA BLDG. 2153 DON CHINO ROCES AVENUE, MAKATI CITY TELS. 812-6047 • FAX 810-9707 E-mail address info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS:
OLEE ELECTRONICS, INC 203 F. FERNANDEZ ST. SAN JUAN METRO MANILA TEL. NO. 727-7017 TO 19 • NETWORK ESSENTIALS, CORP. 173 EDSA, CSP BUILDING, MANDALUYONG CITY TEL.NO.: 721-2202

CANON PROVINCIAL OFFICES: LA UNION - MAGDALENA PERALTA BLDG. SEVILLA NORTE QUEZON AVENUE SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION TEL. NO. (072) 242-0440 OR (072) 242-4587 FAX (072) 242-0440 • BATAAN [illegible] BLDG. M. DALTON STREET BALANGA BATAAN TEL. NO. (047) 237-2151 (047) 237-5733 FAX 237-2151 • LEGASPI DOOR 7&8 CEA BLDG., LEGASPI PLAZA HOTEL, LAPU-LAPU ST. LEGASPI CITY TEL. NO. (052) 214-3061 FAX (052) 480-6331 • CEBU DOOR 10 1F & 2F THREE STAR ARCADE HERNAN CORTES ST. SUBANGDAKU MANDAUE CEBU CITY TEL.NO. (032) 345-3000 (032)345-3821 FAX (032) 344-677 • DAVAO 301 E. PALMA GIL ST. BO. OBRERO DAVAO CITY TEL. NO. (082) 227-4020 FAX (082) 222-3302

Canon
The best technology in print.

DESPITE SLOW START

BPI sees better '03 net profit

By Elena R. Torrijos

BANK of the Philippine Islands (BPI) said yesterday it expected better profits this year despite a slow start in the first quarter.

BPI president Xavier Loinaz said consumer loan demand was growing, although the corporate side—particularly in the manufacturing sector—remained weak.

Loinaz said it would be hard to predict how the bank would perform in 2003 given the global uncertainties from the Iraq war but it should do better than last year's profit of P5.2 billion.

"The aspiration is always to improve, improve, improve," he told reporters on the sidelines of the bank's annual shareholders' meeting. The bank also declared a P1 special dividend to stockholders during the meeting.

He added that while interest income could increase because of higher interest rates, this might be offset by the imposition of the value-added tax on banks.

The bank is banking on consumer lending to contribute to the growth this year as corporate lending remained weak. "We're hoping the corporate will come back to the well," Loinaz said.

BPI senior executive vice president Aurelio Montinola III told reporters that consumer loans in the first quarter grew 10 percent to 15 percent.

BPI, owned by conglomerate Ayala Corp. and Singapore's DBS Bank, posted a consolidated net income of P5.17 billion last year, slightly down from P5.25 billion in 2001.

Loinaz said the bank was likely to post flat earnings in the first quarter of this year. It had a net income of P1.48 billion in January to March 2002.

"The business for the last three months has not been all that exciting, it's kind of flat," he said. "We're talking about loans, we're talking about earnings. We haven't seen any major pick-up in business."

BPI said it was likely to set aside P1.2 billion in loan-loss provisions this year, about the same amount as in 2002.

Loinaz said BPI set up a pool of foreclosed assets worth P4.5 billion to P5 billion in book value, which it had offered to sell to three big foreign institutions. He said a deal to sell the assets was likely to be signed within two months.

"This is what we are offering to a number of players, very large players that I cannot mention," Loinaz said. "We're putting this through a bidding process."

The assets, mostly located in Manila and Cebu, are part of P15 billion of foreclosed properties the bank had said it planned to unload.

BPI's bad loan ratio stood at 11.9 percent at the end of 2002, lower than the industry average of 15.76 percent.

Loinaz said the bank's plan to expand in Southeast Asia was "on hold" due to global uncertainties related to the war in Iraq.

"That's still up in the air. We haven't sorted out much of that yet," he said. "I guess we just have to wait for the Middle East situation to sort itself out."

BPI had said it was looking at possible investments in the region and was interested in buying a stake in Indonesia's PT Bank NISP. *With a report from Reuters*

LSC obtains P100-M loan to buy vessel

BINONDO-based Lorenzo Shipping Corp. has secured a fresh loan of P100 million from Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. to buy a new vessel.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, LSC spokesperson Arsenio Cabrera Jr. said the shipping firm had executed an agreement to buy the MV Lorcon Davao from Milky Way Shipping Inc.

LSC and Milky Way had an earlier deal wherein the former was given the option to purchase the vessel.

The option was exercised by LSC at the purchase price of $1.52 million, which will be funded by the Metrobank loan.

LSC embarked on a streamlining program in the aftermath of the currency crisis. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Bank of the Philippine
What makes a good company grea
The people who stand by it

BANK of the Philippine Islands chair Jaime Zobel de Ayala (middle), vice chair Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala (left) and president Xavier P. Loinaz preside over the annual stockholders' meeting of the bank on Thursday at the Manila Intercon Hotel.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

'NO QUORUM, NO ELECTION'

Boycott dampens PSE meeting

By Doris C. Dumlao and Elena Torrijos

THERE may be only one slate running unopposed in tomorrow's controversial Philippine Stock Exchange elections, but the opposition's boycott may cloud that group's ability to bring majority of the members to the meeting.

"No quorum, no election," said Jose Aquino, Securities and Exchange Commission director and chair of the PSE's nomination and election committee (Nomelec).

If there would be not enough shareholders represented to satisfy a quorum, Aquino said the PSE would have to schedule another meeting and that a holdover of the incumbent 15-member board was inevitable.

A quorum is defined by the PSE by-laws as having 50 percent plus one of the 9.2 million issued shares being represented during the annual stockholders' meeting.

"A very close call," opposition standard-bearer Filomeno Francisco said yesterday when asked whether his group expected a quorum, which could mean a poll victory for the rival group.

"But I think they may just barely make a quorum," he admitted.

Francisco (who is backed by former PSE chairs Robert Coyiuto Jr., Trina Kalaw and Harry Liu) was supposed to run for PSE chair against presidential sister-in-law Alicia Rita Arroyo (who is backed by incumbent chair Vivian Yuchengco), but his slate withdrew from the elections, citing alleged "unfair" treatment from the Nomelec.

William Ang, a broker-candidate running under the Arroyo ticket, yesterday said his group was not sure whether there would be a quorum on Saturday.

The main issue dividing the bourse had been the short-listing of non-broker directors by the Nomelec.

It may make the PSE meeting tomorrow the most controversial in the local bourse's history, even exceeding last year's standoff between Coyiuto and Yuchengco. In last year's election, Yuchengco, supported by Nomelec-appointed independent directors, was elected chair despite Coyiuto winning the votes of a majority of the brokers. This led Coyiuto to spearhead the drive against short-listing for this year's board elections.

During the nomination proceedings for this year's election of independent directors, the 5-member Nomelec invoked SEC Circular No. 16 to short-list independent director candidates. The Nomelec, headed by the SEC's Aquino and supported by Yuchengco allies Antonio Lopa and Francisco Villaroman, appointed incumbent directors Tomas Apacible, Cayetano Paderanga, Ernest Leung and Fr. Joaquin Bernas.

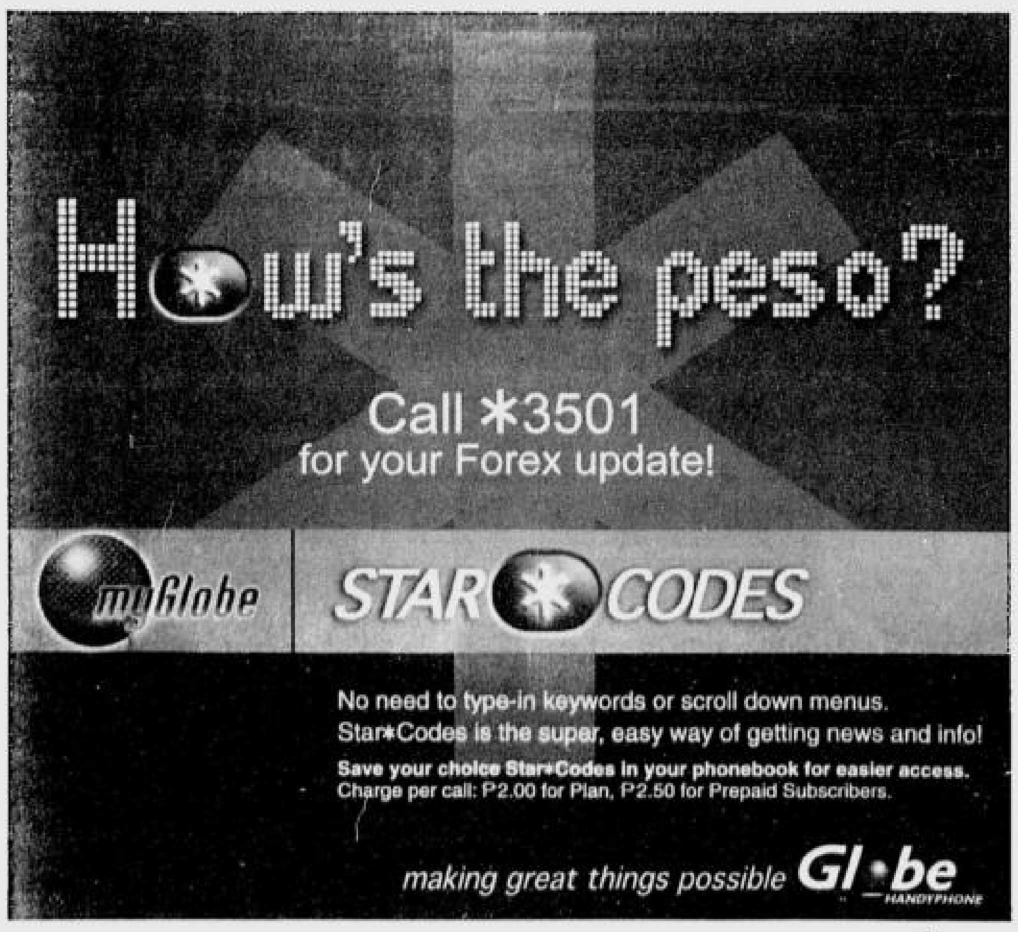
But Bernas later declined the appointment. "I could not honorably accept being a beneficiary of a process I had consistently opposed."

Former SEC Chair Rosario Lopez also supported the view of Bernas. "As former chair of the SEC I was constrained to comment on the PSE short-listing which is of vital importance in the Philippine capital market. First and foremost, I believe that the provision on short-listing is nowhere to be found in the Corporation Code of the Philippines which provides in an explicit manner for the conduct of election of the board of directors of any corporation including the Philippine Stock Exchange."

Three former PSE chairpersons—Harry Liu, Trinidad Kalaw and Felipe Yap—have openly expressed opposition to short-listing.

But Ang also issued yesterday a statement refuting the opposition's complaint on the selection of non-broker directors, the nomination of former banker Peter Favila and the time constraint on the gathering of proxies.

Ang stressed that the PSE by-laws gave the Nomelec the responsibility of making the choice of all non-broker nominations and that the decision to short-list candidates was lawful. "It is absurd to claim that the stockholders who approved the by-laws gave Nomelec this responsibility without giving it the power and authority to do its job."



Call ✱3501 for your Forex update!

No need to type-in keywords or scroll down menus. Star✱Codes is the super, easy way of getting news and info!

Save your choice Star✱Codes in your phonebook for easier access.
Charge per call: P2.00 for Plan, P2.50 for Prepaid Subscribers.

making great things possible

Iraq war …

From page B1

"On balance, those policies in 2003-04 are more likely to be less stimulative—or restrictive—rather than expansive," it said.

Central banks must be alert to the danger of deflation, particularly because it can increase the cost of servicing debts, it said.

"Monetary authorities should focus as much, if not more now, on avoiding the lower boundaries rather than the upper limits of forward looking inflation targets."

But as the excesses of the 1990s boom evaporated and financial markets stabilized, the world economy should emerge in "fairly sound" condition, it forecast. *AFP*

Stocks end up …

From page B1

PLDT and companies in the stable of the Ayala conglomerate helped drive the market higher.

The main composite index ended up 10.53 points or one percent at 1,062.49 points, its highest close since Jan. 20.

Turnover improved to P325.15 million from P251.63 million on Wednesday. *Reuters*

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Thursday, April 3,2003)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
	BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES				
	BANKS				
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	2,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	35	35	34	34.5	464,900
China Banking Corp.	670	670	670	670	2,000
Citystate Savings Bank	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	23.5	24.25	23.5	24	106,600
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	29	29	29	29	148,500
Philippine National Bank	23.75	23.75	23.5	23.5	17,700
Security Bank Corp.	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	200
Union Bank of the Phil.	16.25	16.75	16.25	16.5	37,800
	FINANCIAL SERVICES				
Bankard Inc.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	20,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1300	1300	1300	1300	770
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1015	1015	1015	1015	1,450
	COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL				
	COMMUNICATION				
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp	11	11	10.75	11	34,100
Digital Telecom Phils Inc	0.55	0.59	0.55	0.58	11,350,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	575	590	575	580	1,220
Ipeople Inc.	0.64	0.65	0.64	0.65	1,170,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	3,000,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp	3	3	3	3	13,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	0.3	0.32	0.3	0.31	4,680,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	20,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	330	337.5	330	335	211,690
Ivantage Corp.	0.38	0.4	0.38	0.4	870,000
Philweb Corp.	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.013	3,400,000
	POWER & ENERGY				
Manila Electric Co. A	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	38,000
Manila Electric Co. B	12.75	12.75	12.5	12.5	212,400
Petron Corp.	1.86	1.9	1.86	1.88	2,088,000
Trans-Asia Oil And Energy	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	4,000
	TRANSPORTATION SERVICES				
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.38	2.42	2.38	2.4	170,000
Construction & Other Relat	ed Product	s			
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.3	0.32	0.3	0.32	830,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	30,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74	10,000
	FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO				
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	50,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	16.75	17	16.75	16.75	485,900
La Tondeña Distillers,Inc	32	32	32	32	38,700
RFM Corp.	0.89	0.91	0.87	0.87	510,000
San Miguel Corp. A	57.5	58	57.5	58	27,100
San Miguel Corp. B	67	67.5	67	67.5	56,600
Universal Robina Corp.	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	26,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	110,000
	HOLDING FIRMS				
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	420,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	20,000
Ayala Corp.	4.05	4.15	4.05	4.1	3,782,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.34	2.34	2.34	2.34	78,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.025	0.026	0.024	0.026	3,900,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	5,000,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	250,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.28	0.29	0.27	0.29	10,890,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	300,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.17	0.175	0.16	0.175	590,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	3,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.9	202,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.09	0.095	0.09	0.095	300,000
Ionics Inc.	0.77	0.79	0.77	0.77	1,190,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.32	1.34	1.32	1.32	45,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	50,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	400,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.16	0.18	0.16	0.175	8,180,000
Music Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.34	0.34	4,450,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	300,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	3	3	3	3	463,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	600,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.35	0.38	0.35	0.35	1,390,000
	MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING				
Interphil Labs Inc. A	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	28,626,000
Interphil Labs Inc. B	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	39,020,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.99	1.3	0.99	1.3	84,000
Metro Alliance Hldgs B	0.91	1.1	0.91	1.02	79,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1,266,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	17	17	16.5	17	65,900
	HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES				
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.31	0.33	0.31	0.33	440,000
Mondragon Intl Phils Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	230,000
	BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS				
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	10.75	11	10.5	10.5	94,800
Philweb Corp. - Warrants	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	1,000,000
	PROPERTY				
Ayala Land Inc.	4.65	4.8	4.65	4.75	4,197,000
Cityland Development Corp	2	2	2	2	10,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	130,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.155	0.16	0.155	0.16	300,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	10,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	0.94	0.98	0.94	0.96	10,240,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	50,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	100,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	6,500,000
SM Development Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.1	1.1	21,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5	5.1	5	5.1	788,000
	MINING				
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	2	2	1.9	1.9	17,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	10,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.19	0.2	0.19	0.2	50,000
	OIL				
Imperial Res.	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	3,100,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	7,000,000

	SHARES	VALUE(P)
Bank & Fin Svc	803,920	27,859,825.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	143,145,410	263,938,225.00
PRO	22,346,000	34,923,420.00
Mining	77,000	44,650.00
OIL	10,100,000	61,300.00
GRAND TOTALS:	176,472,330	326,827,420.00

DISCLOSURES

BENPRES Holdings Corp. announced the election of Vicente Jayme as director to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Christian Monsod.

* * *

ELECTED directors of Ayala Land Inc. were Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II, Mercedita Nolledo, Delfin Lazaro, Aurelio Montinola III, Leandro Locsin Jr., Ramon del Rosario Jr. and Nieves Confesor.

* * *

LORENZO Shipping Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 3, 9 a.m. at Dusit Hotel, Makati City. Stockholders as of April 27 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

* * *

EASYCALL Communications Philippines Inc. announced the resignation of Roberto Manabat as director and chair of the audit committee. Aloysius Colayco was elected to replace Manabat in the board. Benedict Seballos was appointed treasurer to replace Susanette Cu while Edgardo Abalos, the company's executive vice president, was appointed compliance officer.

* * *

PHILEX Mining Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on June 19, 2 p.m. at the 4/F, Function Modules ABCD of Manila Galleria Suites, Pasig City. Stockholders as of April 15 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

CURRENCIES

April 3, 2003 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.927386	1.000000	53.500000
Japan	Yen	0.007711	0.008169	0.437000
United Kingdom	Pound	1.524066	1.616600	86.488100
Hongkong	Dollar	0.118900	0.126200	6.750000
Switzerland	Franc	0.681400	0.726100	38.840000
Canada	Dollar	0.611329	0.648200	34.670000
Singapore	Dollar	0.532216	0.564200	30.180000
Australia	Dollar	0.541697	0.575200	30.770000
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.459974	2.386700	127.680000
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.247316	0.239900	12.830000
Brunei	Dollar	0.530693	0.562500	30.090000
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000105	0.000110	0.005800
Thailand	Baht	0.021667	0.022900	1.225100
UAE	Dirham	0.252522	0.245000	13.100000
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.060400	56.730000
Argentina	Peso	0.291630	0.314465	16.956600
Brazil	REAL	0.263912	0.284576	15.344900
Denmark	Kroner	0.134458	0.144986	7.817900
India	Rupee	0.019442	0.020964	1.130400
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.244081	0.263193	14.191900
Mexico	New Peso	0.085113	0.091777	4.948800
New Zealand	Dollar	0.503850	0.543301	29.295900
Norway	Kroner	0.133616	0.144078	7.769000
Pakistan	Rupee	0.015945	0.017194	0.927100
South Africa	Rand	0.109137	0.117682	6.345600
Korea	Won	0.000785	0.000847	0.045700
Sweden	Kroner	0.108372	0.116857	6.301200
Syria	Pound	0.018007	0.019417	1.047000
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.026873	0.028977	1.562500
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000483	0.000521	0.0281

Dollar loans down 12% in 2002 on weak peso

By Clarissa S. Batino

WITH borrowers avoiding dollar-denominated loans because of the peso's weakness, lending from the foreign currency deposit units of banks dropped 12 percent to $4.903 billion last year.

Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed that compared to the third quarter, however, FCDU loans went up by $4.4 million, or 0.1 percent, in the fourth quarter.

Even as FCDU deposits remained steady at $12 billion to $13 billion, dollar lending contracted significantly in more than five years.

BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said FCDU loans had been steadily declining over the last five years, as local borrowers turned away from dollar-denominated loans to minimize risks and take advantage of declining interest rates.

Dollar loans peaked at $11.9 billion in the second quarter of 1997. As the effects of the Asian financial crisis took its toll on the peso-dollar exchange rate, however, dollar loans dropped to $7.9 billion in 1998 and again to $7.29 billion in 1999.

By 2000, loans from the dollar-deposit units of banks had shrunk to $6.2 billion and then to $5.5 billion in 2001.

Dollar deposits, however, have remained largely stable from $14.5 billion in 1997 to $13 billion in recent weeks.

In comparison, peso loans of commercial banks posted increases from both the previous quarter and the previous year by 1.2 percent and 4.8 percent, according to Tetangco.

"Borrowers continued to have an aversion towards foreign exchange risk that is inherent in foreign currency loans. It helped that interest rates on peso loans carried an average of 8.1 percent and a high average of 10 percent in December 2002," he said.

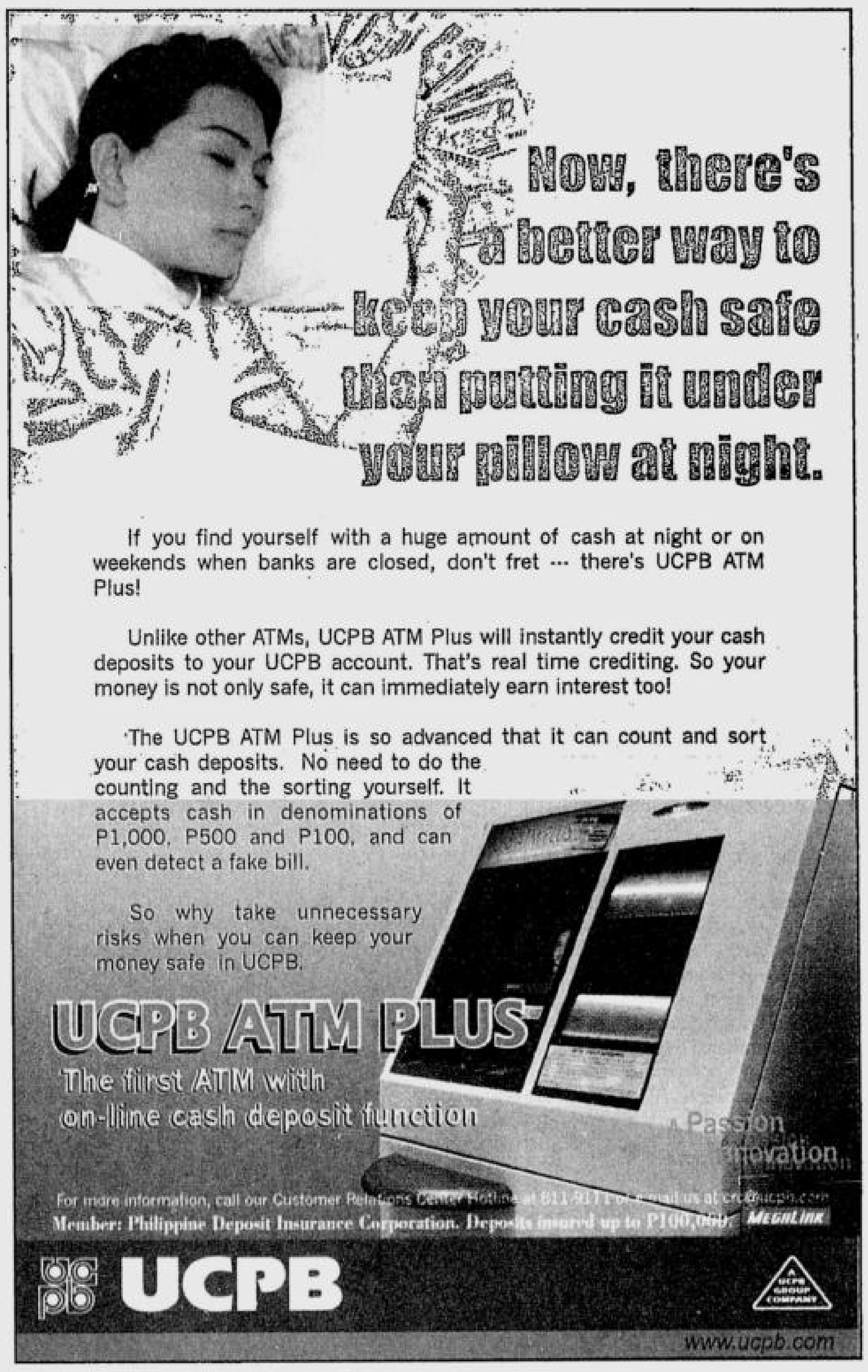
Tetangco said the private sector accounted for $3.745 billion, or 76.4 percent, of outstanding FCDU credits, the maturity of which was evenly split between medium and long term. The public sector took up the remaining 23.6 percent.

Dollar loans to residents stood at 96.8 percent of the portfolio and exporters continued to hug the biggest chunk at 26.3 percent of the total followed by public utilities with 22.8 percent.

BIG SALE
FOR HOTELS,RESTAURANTS,SUPERMARKETS
MEATSHOPS,DELICATESSENS,PASTRY SHOPS
DISCOUNTS ON SELECTED ITEMS!

- **COMERSA** Display Chillers :
- **FAGOR** Kitchen Equipment :
- **SAMMIC** Vacuum & Food Preparation Machines :
- **MOBBA** Meat Processing Machines :
- **KOSKA** Coldrooms/Supermarket Equipment :
- **MOKA ESPRESS** Coffee Expresso Machines :
- **ANIMO** Coffee Brewing Machines :
- **SAGI** Ice Making Machines :

R.URRA PHILS. INC.
G/F Ferros Bel-Air Tower
30# Polaris cor Durban St
Bel-Air, Makati City
Tel 896-6784 / 896-0534
Fax 890-9196 / 899-2096
Cell No 0912-4042790 / 91
E-mail ruphil@pacific net ph
Website www.rurraphil.com


Now, there's a better way to keep your cash safe than putting it under your pillow at night.

If you find yourself with a huge amount of cash at night or on weekends when banks are closed, don't fret --- there's UCPB ATM Plus!

Unlike other ATMs, UCPB ATM Plus will instantly credit your cash deposits to your UCPB account. That's real time crediting. So your money is not only safe, it can immediately earn interest too!

The UCPB ATM Plus is so advanced that it can count and sort your cash deposits. No need to do the counting and the sorting yourself. It accepts cash in denominations of P1,000, P500 and P100, and can even detect a fake bill.

So why take unnecessary risks when you can keep your money safe in UCPB.

UCPB ATM PLUS
The first ATM with on-line cash deposit function

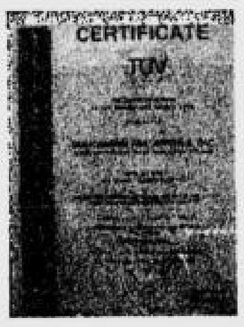
A Passion for Innovation

For more information, call our Customer Relations Center Hotline at 811-9111 or e-mail us at crc@ucpb.com
Member: Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Deposits insured up to P100,000.
MEGALINK

UCPB
www.ucpb.com

BURGMANN

BURGMANN PHILIPPINES, INC.
9769 National Road, Maduya, Carmona, Cavite
Tel. Nos. (63) 2 669 2215 / 46 430 1426 / 49 839 0655
Fax Nos. (63) 46 430 1428 / 49 839 0654
E-Mail Address: almagpantay@burgmann.com.ph


CERTIFICATE
TÜV

L-R: Store/W/house Mgr. Daniel Carlos, Special Project Manager Joseph Etabag, VP & Sales Manager Arlitz Magpantay, President & CEO Edilberto M. Carlos, TUV R. Nepomuceno, Prod. Manager Edward Anyayahan, Engineering & Design Manager Alvin Castillo.

ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

BURGMANN PHILIPPINES, INC., a subsidiary of BURGMANN DICHTUNGSWERKE GMBH & CO. KG of Germany, is a pioneer enterprise in the sealing industry, the first and only manufacturer of quality mechanical seals in the Philippines. It started operations middle of 2000 with an initial staff of 15, now 53. Todate it has more than 300 satisfied customers engaged in varied industries: oil refineries, power plants, petrochemical plants, food manufacturers, pulp & paper plants, brewery plants, pharmaceutical plants, cement manufacturers, steel plants, shipping lines, mining industries, water utilities, high rise buildings and condominiums, and many others.

Range of products: Mechanical seals / Standard & Special seals / Cartridge seals / Dry Gas seals / Magnetic couplings / Agitator seals / MAK & AMK seals / Static seals (Serrated & spiral wound gaskets) / stuffing box packings / Expansion Joints (fabric, steel & rubber), etc.

Range of services: Repair & reconditioning of seals (all brands, types & sizes) / fabrication of shafts & shaft sleeves, seal housing & gland plates / carbon blasting of seal face housing / shrink fitting & carbon impregnation of seal faces / replacement of gland packings with mechanical seals / On-site Training Seminars for production, maintenance technicians of customers on the proper handling and maintenance of mechanical seals.

Burgmann considers customers as partners in business. It helps analyze the causes of seal failures and provides appropriate corrective solutions. It has the technology, the know-how, the technical skills and the expertise to manufacture high quality mechanical seals. It can do repair service to all types, brands and sizes of mechanical seals of all applications. Its modern machinery equipments, tools and test instruments are manned and operated by technicians trained in Germany. The latest techniques in sealing technology are applied in production and uses only certified raw materials conforming to the highest standard of Burgmann Germany.

BURGMANN STAFF

ENGINEERING

PRODUCTION

WAREHOUSE

ADVT.

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
BusinessFriday
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Entrepreneurship offers hope for new grads

By Ian Jester de Vera
Contributor

NOT too long ago it was advisable for parents to respect their children's choice of what college course they intended to take or even their decision to shift from one course to another.

"Kung saan ka masaya, te, suportahan ta ka," says the distinctive expression from the famous TV commercial.

That was a liberal approach in parenting that encouraged children to discover and explore their own potentials, skills and interests.

But this approach, as statistics would show, only resulted in disastrous effects in the national workforce: there was a disproportion between the number of available jobs and the number of graduates fit for those jobs.

Thus, there are more newly licensed doctors, lawyers, teachers, and engineers than jobs waiting for them.

Reality bites and truth hurts even more. Of the 759,000 new jobs created every year, only 51,000 are professional and executive positions. That is far from the 400,000 who graduate from college every year. And because of the global downturn worsened by the September 11 incident in New York, many companies, even major multinational firms and global giants, are downsizing and have freezed hiring.

As a result of the mismatch between supply and demand in the college-level job market, college graduates are forced to work at pay levels below what is expected for those who have undergone higher education.

They then find themselves in a situation where they want additional work because they lack income or they believe their potentials are not being maximized.

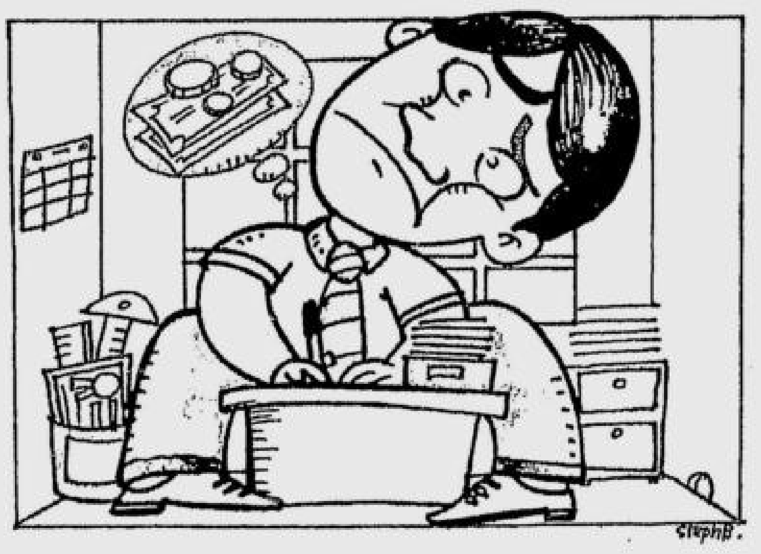
In search of greener pastures, they often see working abroad as the end-all and be-all although this will necessarily entail being separated from their loved ones and the uncertainty that hounds living (and working) in an unfamiliar territory.

Few options

If indeed our fresh graduates would still try their luck here in the Philippines, they would most likely find themselves trapped with only a few options to choose from.

Top on the list of the most probable jobs they would get this summer is that of a call center representative, whose minimum qualifications are completion of a four-year college course and English proficiency.

There are many variations in the job title but the common denominator is attending to outbound calls from abroad. Some do not like working in the wee hours of the morning but if you are just new in this job you are destined, as your baptism of fire, to work in the graveyard shift, even on Sundays and holidays, since the clientele is mostly American and thus in different time zones.



Others complain about the monotonous aspect of the job because you have to sit down and attend to telephone calls for eight hours a day and sometimes even more.

Other jobs in the list are those in sales and marketing, logistics and distribution, education both local and abroad, and microfinance in the rural areas. But certainly, not all our fresh graduates are qualified for these jobs, which may not even be their cup of tea in the first place.

Once employed they cannot be assured of security either. Corporate mergers and layoffs have made the worker dispensable for the sake of the best interest (call it survival) of the company.

Creating options

Is there a silver lining amid this gloom?

Hope can only be found by the independent, the risk taker and the undaunted, qualities that are characteristic of an entrepreneur.

Entrepreneurship can impart on our fresh graduates the experience, skills and competencies that are not taught in any college or university but can give them an edge over other graduates competing for positions in other companies.

This preoccupation can also give them "lead-time" while they wait for the dream job, and once they find themselves successful in their businesses, they might even abandon job-hunting completely and instead venture into self-employment for life.

And from a patriotic point of view, entrepreneurship can create new jobs for the millions of unemployed because of the economic crunch.

The fresh graduate, however, must not fall into the trap set by the misconception that entrepreneurship is all joy because of the carefree characteristic of being "your own boss".

Entrepreneurship, as even the most successful of entrepreneurs would agree, has its own difficulties, too.

For every reward entrepreneurship brings comes a corresponding risk the entrepreneur has to take, and the risk becomes more burdensome since he or she has to bear it alone.

Globalization, for instance, has made business evolution too fast and too furious, and it has claimed numerous casualties in the form of businesses that have closed shop.

If our fresh graduates who decide to embark on entrepreneurship will be caught off guard by this phenomenon, they will soon realize that they have only come out of the frying pan and into the fire.

Sustainability

Sustainability is a feature our fresh graduates must acquire if they really want to succeed in entrepreneurship. It characterizes successful enterprises and it is also the trait that differentiates an entrepreneur from the ordinary businessperson.

It gives the "staying power" that endures crises and survives dog-eat-dog competition. But as our fresh graduates and new entrepreneurs will eventually learn, sustainability is easier said than done. They will realize that they, too, have some work to do.

How can one achieve staying power in business? Perhaps it is a topic for another article. It is the same as asking, how can one succeed in business? At the moment it is enough that the fresh graduate is exposed to all courses of action he or she may take after graduation, and entrepreneurship is a good alternative.

This is the age of entrepreneurship as there not enough jobs these days. Not everyone can be part of the working class, but everyone can become an entrepreneur.

(The University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries is offering for a limited engagement a special run of the Appreciation Course on Entrepreneurship on April 8, 2003. For more information, call Tess Santos at 9266316 or 9287076 to 79 local 165.)

Family fights to save vanishing salt trade

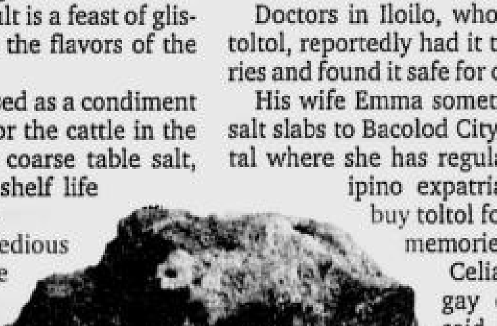
By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

HOSKYN, Guimaras—From the flotsam and jetsam across the strait, a family finds a source of livelihood in what is now a vanishing trade in Guimaras—salt making.

Serafin, 58, and his wife Emma Ganila transform the garbage floating ashore into "toltol" rock salt, which is a rare find in the market these days.

Toltol is so named because of how it is used traditionally. In an absence of a viand, the salt slab is broken into fist-sized pieces and dabbed on steaming hot rice dribbled with lard or oil. The result is a feast of glistening rice perked with the flavors of the sea.

The salt slab is also used as a condiment for cooking and a lick for the cattle in the rural areas. Unlike the coarse table salt, rock salt has a longer shelf life and does not melt easily.


A fist-sized chip off a slab of toltol.

Toltol making is a tedious process and not for the fainthearted, said Serafin who has been making toltol for at least 30 years.

During the months of October to May, when the winds brought by the Northeast Monsoon sweep all sorts of debris to the shores of Hoskyn, Serafin carefully gathers those which he could use in making toltol—tigbao reeds, bamboo tubes, coconut and nipa fronds, twigs and tree branches.

About 20 years ago, gathering them was much easier because he did not have a hard time separating them from plastic and foil packaging.

Serafin then makes a bonfire out his find and sets aside the ashes. The ash is then placed on a sieve or cheesecloth.

A few scoops of clear seawater is slowly poured on it. The process is repeated several times until the strained water comes out crystal clear. After adding a tablespoon of coconut milk, the water is cooked in huge vats for a day until it hardens into an ash-colored slab of salt. A 10 x 14x 3 slab of toltol is sold at P250.

"It is selling like hotcakes in Iloilo City and as far as Dumangas town north of Iloilo. The Chinese in the city are our regular customers because they believe the salt is a cure for some ailments," said Serafin.

Doctors in Iloilo, who bought Serafin's toltol, reportedly had it tested in laboratories and found it safe for consumption.

His wife Emma sometimes brings some salt slabs to Bacolod City, Negros Occidental where she has regular customers. Filipino expatriates would often buy toltol for its taste and the memories it evoked.

Celia Herrera, barangay chief of Hoskyn, said her community was once a haven of toltol makers but many families abandoned the trade because younger people were leaving home to look for jobs elsewhere.

Serafin, however, keeps faith in his trade because it is a family tradition. He also boasts of being the best maker of toltol in Guimaras and, probably, the whole world. For him, it is a matter of pride.

Serafin and Emma have eight children and six grandchildren. From their earnings in making toltol, they have been able to send their children to school. But none of their children plans to continue their trade.

"It is a dying trade. I hope young people would be interested to learn the craft which brings fame to Hoskyn," said Herrera.

Ad firm honors best work

FOR 15 years, the DDB Pinnacle Awards have recognized and honored the best work from its more than 200 offices around the world, focusing on its creative product and reminding them that creativity is its heritage and mission.

Gold winners get a solid glass pinnacle-shaped trophy while silver winners get a picture-pretty certificate.

A special award, plus a cash prize of $10,000, is given to a campaign that best exemplifies one or more of the principles of its founder Bill Bernbach. This highest honor is chosen by the chairman of the network, Keith Reinhard, from among the Pinnacle gold winners.

Another award is the Chairman Award, also selected by Reinhard and given to the most creative multi-media campaign.

This year, the "Real Men of Genius" campaign for Bud Light won the Radio Mercury Awards Grand prize for two years in a row, along with nearly every other creative award. Two elements really make the campaign work - the over-the-top, bombastic tone of a clueless announcer, spoofing an 80's style of advertising, and the rock singer who belts out phrases.

All in all, the DDB Chicago team has produced 60 of these outrageous radio salutes, so popular with listeners they are being traded on-line in Bud Light fan sites.

This year's Chairman Award went to Downtown Partners in Toronto, a division of DDB Group Canada, for their hilarious and highly effective "Bud Light Institute" campaign.

This year the Pinnacle jury gathered in New York, where a week was spent reviewing over 1,700 entries from 87 offices around the world.

Roger Pe

Inter-corporate loans and advances

By Casey M. Barleta
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

HAVE you ever extended a loan to a relative?

It happens every now and then—a close relative or a friend would approach you for assistance to tide him over in times of financial crisis.

Most pay. Some don't. And for those who do, they pay only the principal, without interest.

In the first place, we do not usually charge interest on loans to friends and relatives.

It doesn't seem proper, right? To take advantage of one's problems for your own benefit just does not sit well with the Filipino character.

Interest-free loans

The concept of interest-free loans has been recognized even by our Civil Code.

Thus, under the Civil Code, where the parties to a contract of loan did not specify interest payments, then no interest will be charged. (Article 1956, Civil Code of the Philippines.)

On the other hand, if interest has been stipulated, but no rate was specified, then the legal rate of interest shall be applied.

In the case of loans, the applicable interest rate is 12 percent (Reformina vs. Tomol, 139 SCRA 260; Central Bank Circular 416; Eastern Shipping Lines vs. Hon. Court of Appeals and Mercantile Insurance Company, Inc., G.R. No. 97412, July 12, 1994.)

But the Bureau of Internal Revenue has not actually imposed this rate, preferring as it does to follow the bank reference rate prescribed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. (RMO 63-99).

That seems to be clear enough up to this point.

But what most people do not know is that under our Tax Code, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may allocate income and deductions between related taxpayers to arrive at the proper tax payable. (Section 50, 1997 Tax Code).

Charging of interest

This power of the BIR Commissioner has been interpreted by the Court of Tax Appeals, in a case decided last September, 2002 to include the charging of interest on loans where there are no stipulations as to payment of interest.

The rationale for this is to put a controlled taxpayer on an equal footing with an uncontrolled taxpayer.

In other words, where corporations controlled by the same interests may be able to play around with their income and deductions—for example, a company subject to a higher tax may be able to shift income to an affiliate subject to a lower tax rate, thus effectively saving on the amount of tax payable—a company without affiliates cannot.

This would be true even if the parties are taxable at the same rate, because one might have a lower tax base than the other.

A company with subsidiaries, or is otherwise a member of a group of companies, would therefore have a tax advantage over a company standing alone.

In the case of interests on loans, if an interest-free loan is given by one company to a related company, the creditor company would not have any interest income that would be subject to income tax.

On the other hand, if the creditor is a non-related company, interest would normally be charged, and such interest would be subject to income tax.

Interest expenses

Thus, by empowering the BIR Commissioner to charge interest on interest-free loans or advances, the government is not deprived of much-needed revenue, as such interest income may then be subjected to tax.

A debtor-corporation is also allowed to adjust its income to reflect the corresponding interest expense.

This pronouncement of the Court of Tax Appeals appears to be all-encompassing compared to the BIR's own regulations on the matter.

Under Revenue Memorandum Order No. 63-99, while the BIR Commissioner may charge interest on interest-free loans/advances between related companies, the rate will not apply if the loan is in fact a contribution to capital.

Inter-corporate loans or advances are considered contributions to capital under the following circumstances:

a) the loan is made by a company which is a corporate shareholder of the borrowing company;

b) the loan is based on the percentage of shareholdings of the corporate shareholder making the advances;

c) the advances are made because of the financial need of the borrowing company, taking into consideration the financial ability of the lending company, which makes it clear that the advances are emergency loans to help a related company short of capital. (BIR Ruling 191-99, December 3, 1999)

Arm's length interest

In those instances where interest may be charged, an arm's length interest rate should be applied i.e., the same rate that would have been charged to an unrelated company.

In determining the arm's length rate, the interest to be used is the bank reference rate prescribed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. (Section 4.2, RMO 63-99).

Can we then say that this BIR interpretation is now modified by the pronouncement of the Court of Tax Appeals?

How can the BIR regulation, as well as the tax court's pronouncement, be harmonized with the Civil Code on the charging of interests?

If I were a businessman, I would naturally seek shelter under the Civil Code as it prevents the BIR from assessing a deficiency income tax arising from the charging of interest on a loan made to a related company.

Dilemma

But would the Civil Code take precedence in this situation?

Can we say that when it comes to taxation, the Tax Code, as interpreted by the Court of Tax Appeals and the BIR, should take precedence over the Civil Code provision, because the Civil Code is a law of general application, while the Tax Code is a law of special application?

It is a basic principle in law that a special law has precedence over a general law.

But let's say that the decision of the Court of Tax Appeals has been appealed to the Court of Appeals. Thus, it is not yet a case law.

Hence, the interpretation of the Commissioner's power to impute interest would at best be only argumentative, although one that carries weight, being a pronouncement by a court whose primary responsibility is to rule on tax issues.

Waiting for Supreme Court

We might have to wait for the Supreme Court to resolve this matter before we could know the proper treatment of inter-company loans and advances.

In the meantime, it would be prudent to charge interest, even at the prevailing bank rates of from 8 percent to 10 percent per annum.

At least we minimize our deficiency tax in case of an assessment. Anyway, for loans between related parties, it would just be like transferring funds from the left to the right pocket.

But I can be more aggressive: I'd say I fall under the exceptions mentioned in RMO 63-99, for what else is the purpose of a loan between affiliates other than for use as operating capital?

Any other use of that loan by the company cannot at all be justified as business-related and, accordingly, may be charged interest under the regulations.

SPI buys US medical firm

By Doris C. Dumlao

TECHNOLOGY firm SPI Technologies Inc. has acquired the assets of Tennessee-based medical transcription company Med-Type LLC.

In a disclosure yesterday, SPI said it acquired Med-Type with the help of its Delaware-based subsidiary, SPI Healthcare Documentation LLC.

The company said the acquisition was in line with its strategy to acquire US companies that could help boost its business volumes.

SPI chief finance officer Francisco Suarez Jr. told the Philippine Stock Exchange the agreement involved the purchase by SPI of Med-Type's assets and existing contracts worth about $475,000 (over P25 million).

Med-Type is a privately held medical transcription company providing services to companies in northeastern and southeastern United States. It specializes in medical transcription services for hospitals, clinics and group practices.

Located in Nashville, Tennessee, Med-Type has 125 transcribers in its pool with an average eight years working experience covering all medical specialties.

BPI insurance units post profits; pre-need slumps

BANK of the Philippine Island's insurance units chalked up profits last year, but its pre-need arm registered a significant loss.

"We believe our insurance subsidiaries will be showing better results in the next two years," BPI president Xavier Loinaz told the bank's shareholders yesterday.

Loinaz said the bank would tap bancassurance—cross-selling of insurance products through a bank's network—to improve its insurance units' performance.

Ayala Plans Inc. suffered a net loss of P285 million because the bank decided to boost the pre-need firm's ability to service its planholders.

In line with this, Ayala Plans set aside P575 million to build up its actuarial reserves to P1.3 billion.

Ayala Life Assurance Inc., meanwhile, posted a 72-percent increase in profit to P176 million on cost-cutting in view of flat business.

BPI/MS Insurance Corp. recorded a 12-percent profit decline to P126 million.

Universal Reinsurance Corp. brought up its earnings last year to P70 million or 40 percent higher than the previous year.

Loinaz disclosed that BPI was currently seeking approval from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to enter into bancassurance. *Elena R. Torrijos*

First Metro named best domestic investment bank

FIRST Metro Investment Corp., investment banking arm of the Metrobank group, has been named the "Best Domestic Investment Bank" in the Philippines by The Asset, Asia's leading finance magazine for corporations and institutional investors.

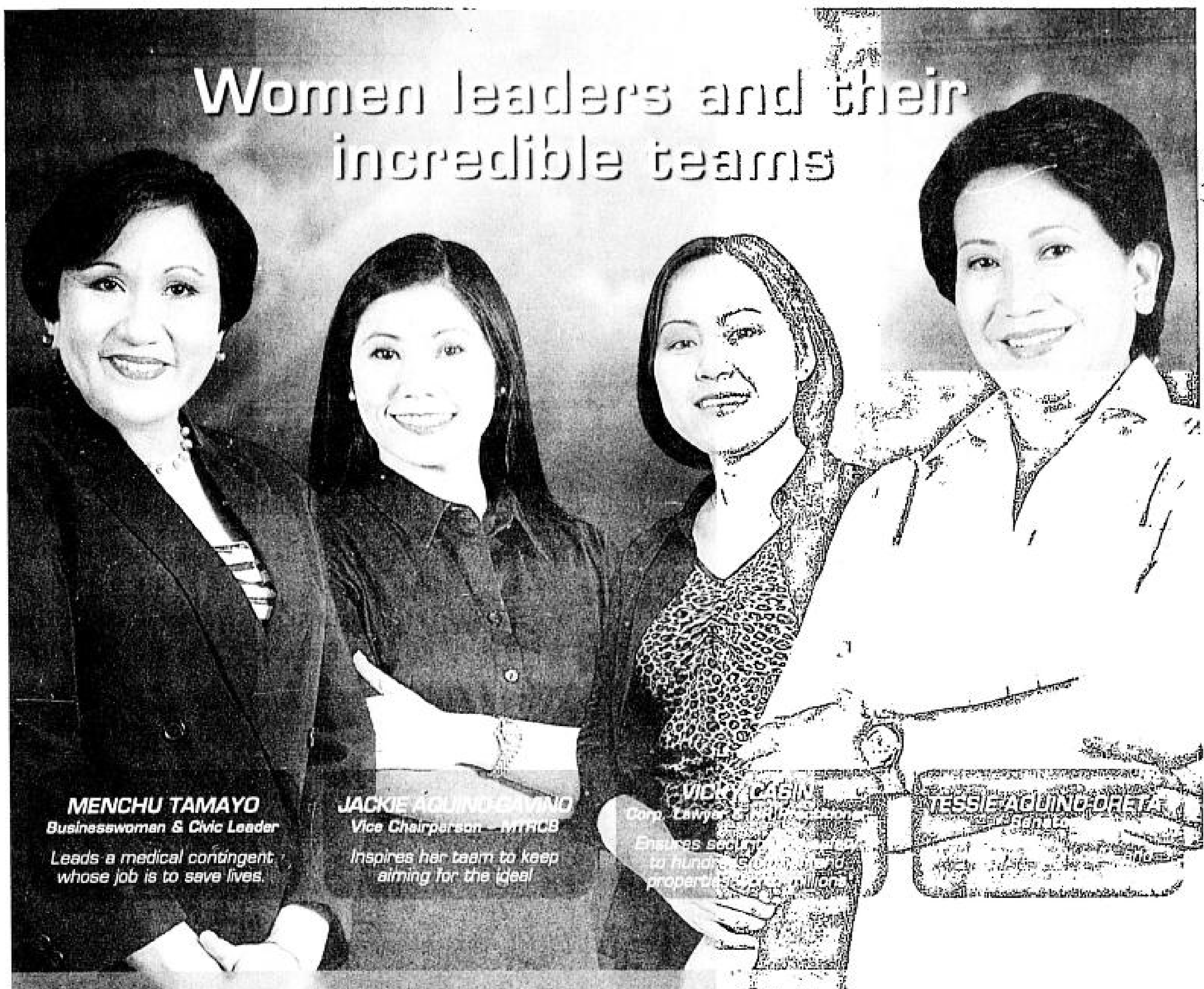
First Metro was selected by The Asset based on deals it executed over the past year, innovations introduced to clients during the year, league-table standing, estimated market share relative to competition for various products, and client testimonials.

Last year, the total capital raised by First Metro was P82 billion. This was nearly double the P43 billion it raised in 2001.

The company issue managed, along with Land Bank of the Philippines and Development Bank of the Philippines, a landmark P62.9-billion retail treasury bond issue in June 2002. This was the largest fund-raising exercise by the Philippine government and the single largest financial transaction in the country ever.

First Metro also lead managed an innovative zero-coupon bond deal for the Home Guarantee Corp., a government financial institution created to provide financing for home building and improvements under a system in which the lending institution is insured against loss of its capital.

The five-year offering raised P7 billion for HGC, which was able to tap private money to jump-start its housing program.


Women leaders and their incredible teams
MENCHU TAMAYO
Businesswoman & Civic Leader
Leads a medical contingent whose job is to save lives.
JACKIE AQUINO-GAVINO
Vice Chairperson – MTRCB
Inspires her team to keep aiming for the ideal
VICKY CASIN
Corp. Lawyer
Ensures sec[illegible] to hundr[illegible] properties [illegible] millions
TESSIE AQUINO-ORETA
Senator

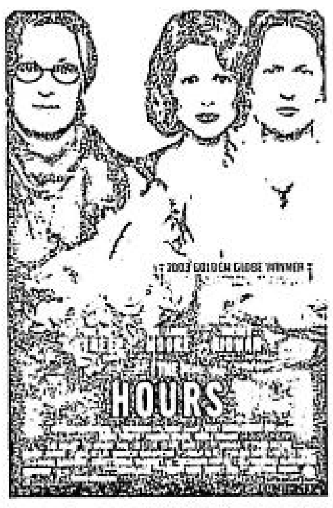
IMX pays tribute to exemplary Filipino women leaders whose teams [illegible] seem to be tough, formidable, daunting and divine.

Sen. Oreta and her legislative team's challenge is [illegible] to be always up to the [illegible] that she believes will shape the future of Filipinos. Menchu Tamayo and her med[illegible] act of saving more lives is one tough act to follow. It's definitely a hot seat for Jackie Aquino-G[illegible] does the formidable job of safeguarding public [illegible] morals with her team of television [illegible] Surrounded by equally competent men in the [illegible] of security, Atty. Casin blends well [illegible] a team that assures the safety of men and properties. These women have [illegible] judgment call.

Their success in mission-critical operations is a [illegible] proof that indeed Filipino women leaders and their teams excel and really stand out in their areas of expertise.

If you are a woman leader, kindly share with us your team's mission-critical goals and achievements.

Send us your Name, Company Name, Business Address, Contact Nos. and E-mail Address and fax to 781-0928, email to customer_care@imx.ph, call our Hotline No.: 786-2222 or deliver to Next Mobile Bldg., 2244 España Ave., Samplaloc, Manila.



As a token of our appreciation, we shall send you an invitation to the movie premiere of "The Hours" on April 21, 2003 at 7pm in Makati on a first come, first served basis.

When it's mission-critical...

IMX

incredible mobile experience

Call Us: 786-2222

www.imx.ph

NEXTmobile
NEXTEL

Top 5 in Metro Manila.

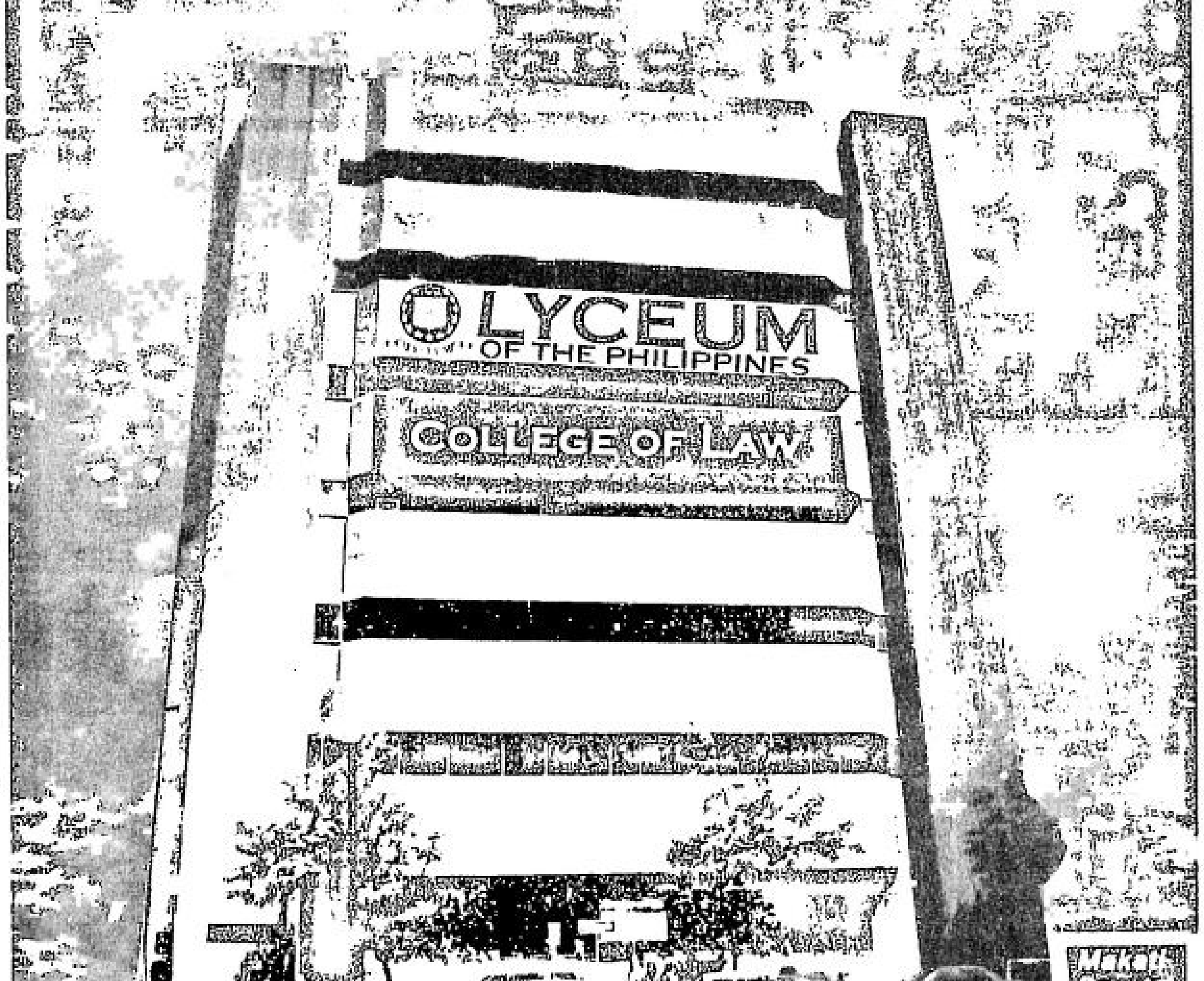
COLLEGE OF LAW

VERITAS ET FORTITUDO
LYCEUM

LYCEUM
OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOCUS ON THE FUTURE.

Based on the Supreme Court statistical data for the 2002 Bar Examinations, the **LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES** ranks among the **TOP 5** law schools in Metro Manila.

Just 3 Blocks off Ayala.



LP Leviste
VA Rufino
San Agustin
Valero
Ayala Avenue
De la Rosa

109 **LP Leviste St., Salcedo Village**, Makati City TEL **527-1758** *(until May 2)* TEL **893-9299 & 893-9399** *(starting May 3)*

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS • On-going in Intramuros, Manila (*Until May 2, 2003*)
• In Makati, every Saturday, 10-12 noon or 2-4 p.m. (*Starting May 3-24, 2003*)
SCHOLARSHIPS WITH STIPEND FOR QUALIFIED HONOR GRADUATES AVAILABLE
TRANSFEREES WELCOME • CLASSES START JUNE 16

ALL DIGITAL SOUND

AYALA CINEMAS

PRESENTS

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 WISHMASTER 4
2 SEX DRIVE
3 THE CORE
4 THE RECRUIT

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 THE CORE
2 DREAMCATCHER
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 3 JUST MARRIED 11:30 1:40 3:50 [illegible] 8:20 10:30
ASTERIX & OBELIX VS. CAESAR
GANGS OF NEW YORK
6 THE RECRUIT
7 WILLARD

GB1 GREENBELT 1
ArtFilm 1 SHADOW HOURS (EXCLUSIVE) 12:20, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30
2 THE CORE 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
DREAMGIRLS April 4, 5 & 6

GB3 GREENBELT 3
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 1 THE CORE 12:20, 3:15, 6:10, 9:05, 12:00
THX GUARANTEED SEATS 2 THE RECRUIT 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40, 12:00
GUARANTEED SEATS 3 JUST MARRIED 12:30, 3:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:40, 11:30
GUARANTEED SEATS 4 DREAMCATCHER 12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00
GUARANTEED SEATS 5 CHICAGO 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
THX 1 THE RECRUIT
2 THE CORE
3 JUST MARRIED
4 CHICAGO
5 DREAMCATCHER

For screening times, call 729-7777. Movies are subject to change without prior notice. Reserve your seats by texting **SURESEATS GB3** or **SURESEATS G4** and send to 2333. Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 WILLIARD
2 TEARS OF THE SUN
3 DREAM CATCHERS
4 JUST MARRIED
5 THE CORE
6 THE RECRUIT
7 GANGS OF NEW YORK
8 SEX DRIVE
9 WISH MASTER
10 ASTERIX

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX RESERVE

Masagana CINEMA 1, 2 & 3
(Pasay) tel 833.3290, 833.3274
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 THE CORE

starmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986
1 THE CORE
2 SEX DRIVE
3 WILLIARD
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) THE RECRUIT
5 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285
1 THE CORE
2 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
3 SEX DRIVE
4 WILLIARD
5 THE RECRUIT
6 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY

M star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel 873.5004
1 THE RECRUIT
2 SEX DRIVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2010 to 13

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 TEARS OF THE SUN

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC
tel 930.9515
1
2
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 THE CORE
4 VIRGIN PEOPLE
5 WILLIARD
6 SEX DRIVE
7 GANGS OF NEW YORK
8 THE RECRUIT
9 JUST MARRIED

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928
1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 SEX DRIVE
3 SEX DRIVE
4 THE RECRUIT
5 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
6 THE CORE
7 GANGS OF NEW YORK
8 SEX DRIVE
9 JAILBIRDS

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082
1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 THE RECRUIT
3 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
4 THE CORE
5 SEX & ZEN-2

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 SEX DRIVE
2 WILLIARD
3 THE RECRUIT
4 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
5 THE CORE

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 SEX DRIVE

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 SEX DRIVE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
Lords VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
Jennet RESERVE

MARKET! MARKET! Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE CORE
3 THE RECRUIT
4 WILLIARD

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238
1 THE RECRUIT
2 THE CORE
3 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3
4 SEX DRIVE
5 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)
1
2

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 - 879.2029
1 SEX DRIVE
2 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Araneta

Araneta MALL CINEPLEX 7
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400
1 SEX DRIVE
2 DREAM CATCHER
3 THE RECRUIT
4 THE CORE
5 WILLIARD
6 GANGS OF NEW YORK
7 TEARS OF THE SUN

Farmers Plaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400
1 SEX DRIVE
2 VIRGIN PEOPLE-3

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
TEL. (049) 837-0026, 534-2185
1 THE RECRUIT
2 SEX DRIVE
3 THE CORE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 SEX DRIVE
2 JUST MARRIED
3 THE CORE
4 THE RECRUIT

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 THE CCORE
4 JUST MARRIED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 CHICAGO
3 TEARS OF THE SUN
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729
1 SEX DRIVE
2 FINAL DESTINATION
3 TEARS OF THE SUN
4 DREAM CATCHERS

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305
1 DREAM CATCHERS
2 SEX DRIVE
3 FINAL DESTINATION

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 SEX & ZEN-2
2 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
3 SEX DRIVE
4 VIRGIN PEOPLE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 THE RECRUIT
2 SEX DRIVE
3 THE CORE
4 JUST MARRIED
5 TEARS OF THE SUN

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE CORE
3 JUST MARRIED

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558
1 THE CORE
2 SEX DRIVE
3 JUST MARRIED

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283
1 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
2 CRADLE TO THE GRAVE
3 SEX DRIVE
4 TEARS OF THE SUN

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 SEX DRIVE
2 FINAL DESTINATION
3 RESERVE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 RING -2
2 STARTREK NEMISIS
3 TEARS OF THE SUN
4 DREAM CATCHERS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-6001 TO 03
1 THE CORE
2 SEX DRIVE
3 THE RECRUIT
4 THE CORY QUIRINO STORY

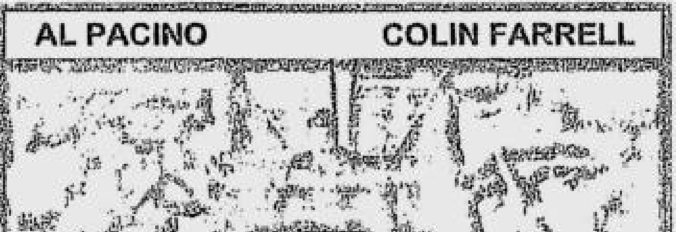
Cine Nepo Mall
(Angeles City) te (045) 887-0121
1 THE RETURN OF THE DEMONS
2 THE CORE
3 THE RECRUIT
4 BANGER SISTERS

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

FESTIVAL MALL
Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang
Tel. 85035-71 to 72

AL PACINO COLIN FARRELL



NOW SHOWING

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868
1 WILLARD
2 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
3 GANGS OF NEW YORK
4 THE RECRUIT
5 THE CORE
6 SEX DRIVE
7 DREAMCATCHER
8 JUST MARRIED

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416
1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 GANGS OF NEW YORK
4 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
5 THE CORE
6 CORY QUIRINO KIDNAP
7 TEARS OF THE SUN
8 DREAMCATCHER
9 WILLARD
10 JUST MARRIED

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749
1 MAID IN MANHATTAN
2 TEARS OF THE SUN
3 JUST MARRIED
4 THE RECRUIT
5 WILLARD
6 SEX DRIVE
7 THE CORE
8 DREAMCATCHER
9 GANGS OF NEW YORK
10 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
11 WISHMASTER 4
12 CORY QUIRINO KIDNAP

SM CITY MANILA
5239240
1 JUST MARRIED
2 DREAMCATCHER
3 WILLARD
4 THE CORE
5 GANGS OF NEW YORK
6 THE RECRUIT
7 TEARS OF THE SUN
8 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
9 SEX DRIVE
10 ASTERIX & OBELIX VS. CAESAR
11 WISHMASTER 4
12 CORY QUIRINO KIDNAP

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401
1 CHICAGO
2 TEARS OF THE SUN
3 THE CORE
4 THE RECRUIT
5 JUST MARRIED
6 ASTERIX & OBELIX VS. CAESAR
7 WILLARD
8 DREAMCATCHER
9 SEX DRIVE
10 GANGS OF NEW YORK
11 WISHMASTER 4
12 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452
1 GANGS OF NEW YORK
2 WISHMASTER 4
3 SEX DRIVE
4 TEARS OF THE SUN
5 JUST MARRIED
6 WILLARD
7 THE CORE
8 THE RECRUIT

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888
1 ASTERIX & OBELIX VS. CAESAR
2 WILLARD
3 GANGS OF NEW YORK
4 THE RECRUIT
5 JUST MARRIED
6 TEARS OF THE SUN
7 SEX DRIVE
8 THE CORE
9 WISHMASTER 4
10 VIRGIN PEOPLE 3

SM CITY CEBU
2313876
1 BANGER SISTERS
2 THE CORE
3 GANGS OF NEW YORK
4 MAID IN MANHATTAN
5 EXTREMISTS
6 DREAMCATCHER
7 SEX DRIVE
8 TEARS OF THE SUN

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422
1 BANGER SISTERS
2 CLOSED
3 MAID IN MANHATTAN
4 THE EYE
5 TEARS OF THE SUN
6 GANGS OF NEW YORK
7 CLOSED
8 SEX DRIVE

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015
1 THE CORE
2 BANGER SISTERS
3 THE RECRUIT
4 TEARS OF THE SUN
5 FINAL DESTINATION 2
6 SEX DRIVE

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975
1 THE RECRUIT
2 THE CORE
3 SEX DRIVE
4 GANGS OF NEW YORK

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302
1 THE CORE
2 SEX DRIVE
3 THE RECRUIT
4 WILLARD

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998
1 TEARS OF THE SUN
2 RING 2
3 MAID IN MANHATTAN
4 GANGS OF NEW YORK
5 THE CORE
6 TEARS OF THE SUN

SM BICUTAN
776-3055
1 THE RECRUIT
2 SEX DRIVE
3 GANGS OF NEW YORK
4 THE CORE

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884
1 TEARS OF THE SUN
2 BANGER SISTERS
3 RING 2
4 CRADLE 2 THE GRAVE

THE PODIUM CINEMA
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center Mandaluyong City
633-0976

1 THE RECRUIT
10:00 FS/10:15 MF/12:35/2:55/5:15/7:35/
9:30 LFS/10:00 LMF/11:55 END

2 THE CORE
11:05 FS/11:35 MF/2:10/4.45/7:20/
9:30 LFS/10:00 LMF/12:10 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee · P100.00 · Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate · P120.00 · After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMAS

@ Robinsons Malls

call-a-movie: 536- 7812

NOW SHOWING

Galleria 632- 9115- 16 633- 7641 loc. 279
THX GANGS OF NEW YORK 11:15 MF, 2:40, 6:05, 9:30 LMF, 12:20
2 THE CORE
3 JUST MARRIED
4 WILLARDS
5 THE RECRUIT
6 DREAMCATCHER
7 TEARS OF THE SUN
8 SEX DRIVE
9 WISH MASTER
10 ASTERIX & OBELIX

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema · P75 1level cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am - 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita 536 -7809- 12
1 THE CORE
2 ASTERIX & OBELIX
3 DREAMCATCHER
4 WILLARDS
5 SEX DRIVE
6 THE RECRUIT
7 JUST MARRIED

Metro East - Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280
1 WILLARDS
2 GANGS OF NEW YORK
3 JUST MARRIED
4 THE CORE
5 THE RECRUITS
6 TEARS OF THE SUN
7 DREAMCATCHER
8 SEX DRIVE

Novaliches 935- 3229 - 30
1 THE CORE
2 WILLARDS
3 THE RECRUIT
4 DREAMCATCHER
5 TEARS OF THE SUN
6 GANGS OF NEW YORK
7 JUST MARRIED
8 SEX DRIVE

Malabon Citisquare 288-0985 / 288-2575
1 VIRGIN PEOPLE
2 THE RECRUIT
3 SEX DRIVE
4 THE CORE

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp. 875- 1927 961- 5318 / 5270
1 BANGER SISTERS
2 SEX DRIVE
3 FINAL DESTINATION
4 THE RECRUIT
5 THE CORE
6 GANGS OF NEW YORK

Imus 471- 8188 / 875- 3838
1 THE RECRUITS
2 JUST MARRIED
3 VIRGIN PEOPLE
4 THE CORE
5 SEX DRIVE
6 WILLARD

Sta. Rosa Laguna 049-8370907
1 THE RECRUITS
2 THE CORE
3 SEX DRIVE
4 JUST MARRIED
5 FINAL DESTINATION

Bacolod 441- 0453 / 0459
1 THE CORE
2 MAID IN MANHATTAN
3 TEARS OF THE SUN
4 EXTRIMIST
5 GANGS OF NEW YORK
6 CORY QUIRINO

Iloilo 336- 8077 - 78
1 GANGS OF NEW YORK
2 TEARS OF THE SUN
3 BANGER SISTER
4 SEX DRIVE
5 THE EYE
6 CHICAGO

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Nationwide search for Judy Ann's partner

NEW movie outfit JMCN is all out to launch its second presentation after the ambitious initial production, "Batang West-Side," which garnered several international acclaims in film festivals abroad.

For its second venture, JMCN will do a Judy Ann Santos starrer, to be filmed in Venice, Paris and the Philippines.

Joey Gosiengfiao returns to the director's chair and works at the helm of the movie. Gosiengfiao's last directorial assignment was "Nights of Serafina," shown in 1996.

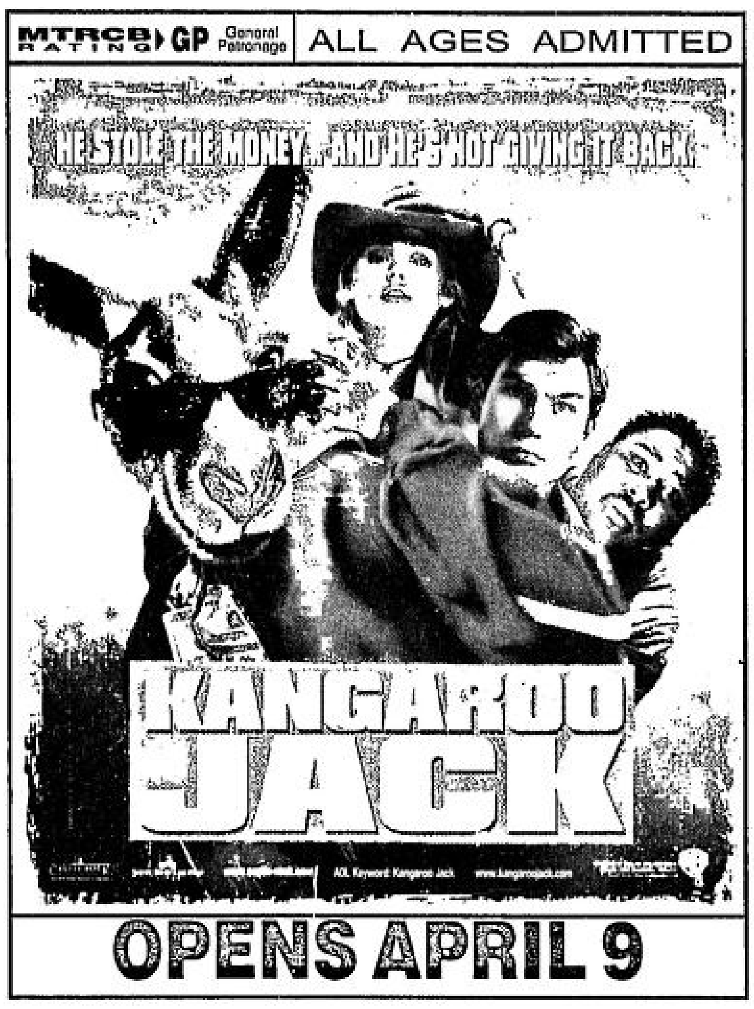
JMCN will conduct a nation wide search for Judy Ann's new male lead in the key cities of the country, particularly in provincial campuses and organizations.

Interested parties may call JMCN office 812-7978 or send close up photos and bio-data to Unit A-11 Mirasol Townhomes, Mirasol St., near 15th avenue, Cubao, Quezon City.

The chosen male lead will be signed up to a three-year contract with the studio.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO/BETTER THAN SEX
ODEON	THE CORE
ODEON-2	BUSINESS FOR PLEASURE/KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ROBEN	SEX DRIVE
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	BELOW EXTREMIST
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	SEX DRIVE
CORONET B	VIRGIN PEOPLE III
QUEZON-1	VIRGIN PEOPLE
REMAR	SEX DRIVE
REMAR-2	CORY QUIRINO STORY
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	YOU & ME AGAINST THE WORLD
B	RAMPADORA
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	THE CORE
CINEMA-2	THE RECRUIT
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	THE CORY QUIRINO STORY
CINEMA-2	VIRGIN PEOPLE 3
CINEMA-3	JAIL BIRDS
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	GANGS OF NEW YORK
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	TEARS OF THE SUN
CINEMA-6	SEX DRIVE
CINEMA-7	DREAMCATCHER
CINEMA-8	SEX & ZEN 2
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	THE CORE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE RECRUIT
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	WILLARD
CINEMA-12	JUST MARRIED
CINEMA-14	ASTERIX & OBELIX
CINEMA-15	SEX DRIVE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	DIE ANOTHER DAY
CINEMA 2	BAHID
CINEMA 3	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA 4	CHANGING LINES
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA


MTRCB RATING GP General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
HE STOLE THE MONEY... AND HE'S NOT GIVING IT BACK.
KANGAROO JACK
AOL Keyword: Kangaroo Jack
www.kangaroojack.com
OPENS APRIL 9

2ND BLOCK-BUSTER HIT WEEK!
MTRCB RATING-R13: STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
ARA MINA
ALESSANDRA de ROSSI
REYNALDO WYCOCO
ZOREN LEGASPI
PAOLO RIVERO MON CONFIADO RICHARD ARELLANO
IAN de LEON
NBI FILES
THE CORY QUIRINO KIDNAP
TV host kidnapped
A GOLDEN LIONS FILMS CINEMEGA INCORPORATED PRESENTATION
A FILM BY
CARLO J. CAPARAS

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB G
ALL AGES ADMITTED
FUN HAS NO FRONTIERS! THE MOST EXPENSIVE FILM IN THE HISTORY OF FRENCH CINEMA
CLAUDE BERRI PRESENTS
CHRISTIAN CLAVIER [JUST VISITING]
GERARD DEPARDIEU [THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO]
ROBERTO BENIGNI
LAETITIA CASTA
ENGLISH VERSION
Asterix & Obelix VERSUS CAESAR
• BEST PICTURE • GOLDEN SCREEN AWARD
• BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR • [GOTTFRIED JOHN] BAVARIAN FILM AWARD
A CLAUDE ZIDI FILM
ROTARY CLUB MAKATI-POBLACION
National Book Store
YSTILA HAIR SPECIALIST
FREE YSTILLA HAIR GEL FOR EARLY MOVIE PATRONS

The country's
one and only
private cinema.
Now it can be yours.

For private movie screenings, intimate parties and impressive presentations.

Package includes Popcorn and Drinks, Parking Passes, Timezone Gamepass & Invitations.

Rates vary depending on Peak, Regular & Off-Peak slots.

For inquiries & reservations, call 752-7862 or 757-3860 to 63.

GREENBELT 3
mycinema

AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING ONLY AT
ArtFilm GREENBELT 1
SHADOW HOURS
SKYFILMS
NOKIA
INQUIRER

Just when you think you've seen it all you realize you haven't seen a thing

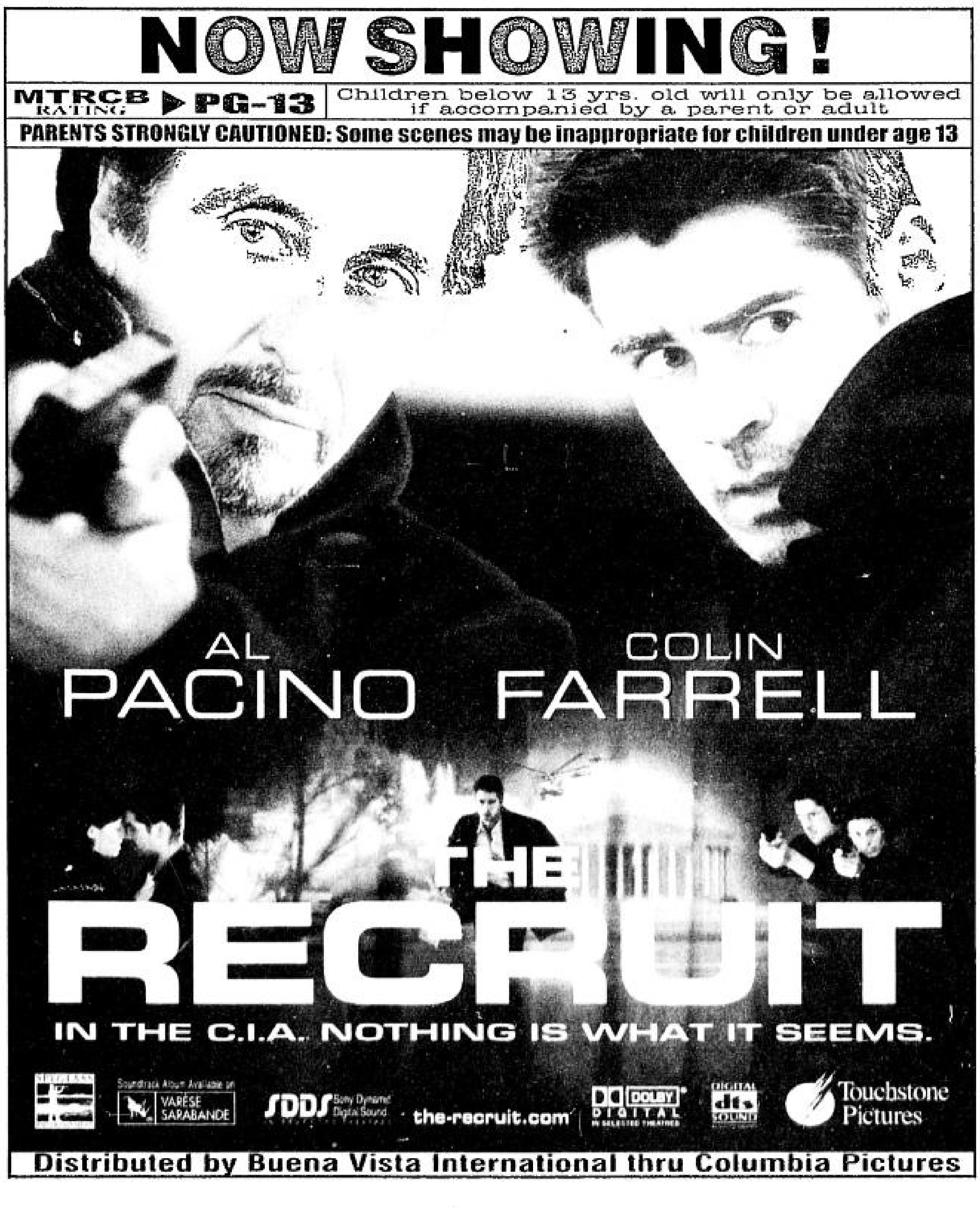
Starring: Balthazar Getty, Peter Weller & Rebecca Gayheart

Michael is a recovering alcoholic & drug user. Back on the wagon, he's now responsible for a young, beautiful, and pregnant wife. He's working the graveyard shift at a gas station to support his new family, but the job's long night hours drives him crazy. Then a wealthy stranger, Stuart, enters Michael's life, taking Michael through a tour of the seediest and slimiest parts of L.A. underbelly. Is Stuart leading Michael to hell, or salvation?

NOMINATED: Grand Jury Prize / Dramatic Competition SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL.

WARNING! Film contains strong perverse sexuality, masochistic images, drug use, offensive language & violence.

MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)


NOW SHOWING!
MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED: Some scenes may be inappropriate for children under age 13
AL PACINO
COLIN FARRELL
THE RECRUIT
IN THE C.I.A. NOTHING IS WHAT IT SEEMS.
Soundtrack Album Available on VARÈSE SARABANDE
SDDS Sony Dynamic Digital Sound
the-recruit.com
DOLBY DIGITAL
dts
Touchstone Pictures
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

This summer ...
GET HOT & WILD WITH MAUI & KATYA!
ANGKAS NA!
wendell RAMOS
maui TAYLOR
antonio AQUITANIA
katya SANTOS
SEX DRIVE
two girls. one WILD ride.
VIVA
directed by Robert Quebral
NOW SHOWING

Leaders running out of tools to jumpstart global economy

日経平均
8017. 75
−52. 10

A WOMAN talks over her phone as she passes by a share prices chart in downtown Tokyo. The Nikkei-225 average of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell 52.10 points to close at 8,017.75 points. AFP

WASHINGTON—Economic policymakers around the world are running out of tools to boost the flagging global economy, the World Bank said in a report on Wednesday.

The bank said the US Federal Reserve, the world's most influential central bank, has little room left to cut interest rates and expects the Fed to leave them on hold this year if growth picks up slightly as expected.

"A worrisome characteristic of the current economic environment is that macroeconomic policies may be running up against their limits," said the bank's 2003 Global Development Finance report.

In fact, policies this year and next are more likely to be less stimulative or "restrictive" than expansive, the bank concludes.

The report comes a day after the Institute of International Finance, a leading financial lobbying group, said the global economy is facing serious problems that will require a coordinated effort from rich nations to bolster prospects.

The Iraq war is a major risk to the outlook and could knock off $75 billion to $100 billion from global economic growth in the first half of the year, the bank said.

But without the war, the world economy is still in a soft spot.

"We've been constantly cutting our growth forecasts over the last year," Philip Suttle, lead author of the report, said at a press briefing.

"Particularly important, is that regardless of the war, general confidence just keeps slipping."

The bank has not made any estimates for the impact of the outbreak of the deadly Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) on economy.

East Asia, the fastest growing region of the world, has so far been the hardest hit by the disease. Suttle said SARS is "an unambiguous negative to growth." *Reuters*

HK shuns karaoke, shopping on SARS

HONG KONG—It's 10 p.m. and one of Hong Kong's biggest karaoke parlors is nearly empty. Hallways that would ordinarily be full of smoke from cigarettes smell more like a hospital.

The normally bustling territory, one of the most densely populated places on Earth, seems more like a ghost town these days as residents avoid crowds for fear of catching a deadly virus that has killed nearly 80 people worldwide and infected over 2,300 others.

The mood grew even grimmer after the World Health Organization warned travelers on Wednesday to avoid Hong Kong and China's southern Guangdong province because of the spreading health threat, the first such warning the UN body has ever issued.

"Business has dropped more than 40 percent since the outbreak of atypical pneumonia two weeks ago," said Raymond Man, marketing manager at California Red, as he gestured around an empty karaoke room that accommodates more than 20 people.

The outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is proving devastating to Hong Kong's restaurants and retailers, and its collective psyche.

Ordinarily sociable Hong Kongers, whose favorite pastimes include shopping, movies, dining out and karaoke, are staying at home. The virus is believed to be spread by droplets.

Schools have been closed and more than 200 people believed to have contracted the virus have been moved to isolation camps.

Despite spending HK$1 million ($128,200) to disinfect karaoke parlurs, buy paper caps for microphones and assuring crooners that singing is safe, California Red has temporarily closed three of its 12 outlets due to low attendance. *Reuters*

US economy faces uncertainty, Fed says

CHICAGO—Chicago Federal Reserve Bank president Michael Moskow said on Wednesday the US economy faces great uncertainty, but monetary policy is still supporting growth.

"We're in a sluggish period, primarily starting in February, continuing in March, and a lot of us think it's because of the geopolitical situation," Moskow said in response to a question after a speech on corporate governance at Loyola University.

"There's an enormous amount of uncertainty," he added.

The Federal Reserve has used the phrase "geopolitical uncertainty" to refer to the war with Iraq, and has blamed that uncertainty for most of the recent weakness in the economy.

Officials have said it will take time to gain a clearer picture of the underlying pace of growth.

Moskow, a voting member of the Fed's policy committee, said it was hard to tell how much of the weakness was due to the war and how much to other factors.

"We certainly know that geopolitical uncertainty is having some effect on consumers and business firms at this point, but no one knows for the sure the extent of that impact," he told reporters.

He added that policy is "accommodative," meaning that already low official interest rates are supporting the economy.

The federal funds rate stands at 1.25 percent.

Federal Reserve policymakers in the past week have suggested they would like to wait for more economic data to gauge the underlying strength of the economy, despite a flood of weak economic reports in the past month.

But many economists expect it will cut interest rates again in coming months. The Fed's next policy meeting is on May 6.

Moskow held out the possibility of an eventual pick-up in the economy, saying "a lot of ingredients are in place" for an improvement later this year.

Earlier, in his speech, the central banker noted the US economy has proved itself resilient on many occasions. *Reuters*

WTO, envoys seek to get pact talks on track

GENEVA—Leading officials involved in troubled global trade talks said on Wednesday progress toward a new international pact could help ease any economic fall-out from the US-led war in Iraq.

World Trade Organization (WTO) chief Supachai Panitchpakdi and officials from rich and poorer countries agreed extra efforts were vital to get negotiations back on track and secure a deal on schedule by the end of next year.

"At a time of growing global economic uncertainty, progress in the Doha Round toward its timely conclusion can make a much needed contribution to confidence," Supachai said at a key review session on the negotiations.

The Doha Road talks, named after Qatar's capital where they were launched in November 2001, struck a major hitch this week over the pivotal and highly political issue of agricultural reform.

Chief US negotiator Peter Allgeier told reporters a tense international situation, in which Iraq was "only one element," should make success in the Round "more important to people."

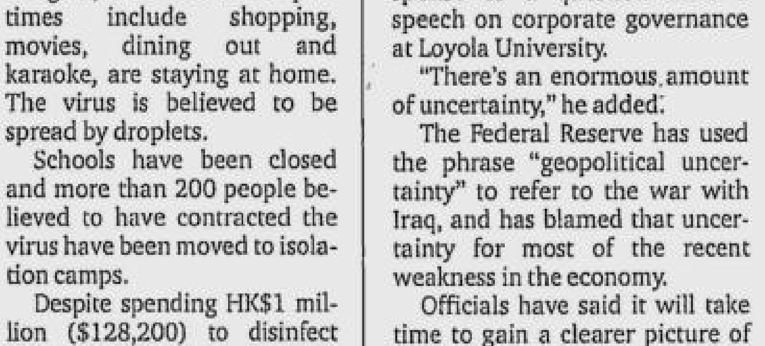
Argentina's chief trade negotiator, Martin P. Redrado, said the war, which has sparked a surge of anti-US sentiment around the globe and made markets jittery, should not be allowed to derail the Round.

"No one wants to see this Round, or this multilateral institution (the WTO) fail," Pedrado said in an interview.

"Because of the seriousness of the (international) situation, we need to make this work one way or another."

The farm talks started in early 2001 long before the Round got under way, but their failure to meet a March 31 deadline for an outline accord on how to reduce agricultural subsidies and lower tariffs for farm produce has cast a dark cloud. *Reuters*

SARS worse for airlines than Iraq—KLM



AN AIRPORT staff and nurses in protective suit wait for passengers arriving from Hong Kong at the Changi International Airport of Singapore. Asian economies are being ravaged by a killer pneumonia virus, with growth rates likely to be slashed by as much as 1.5 percent points this year. AFP

AMSTELVEEN, Netherlands—The chief executive of Dutch airline KLM, which unveiled drastic cost cuts on Tuesday amid falling bookings, said on Wednesday the deadly SARS virus was worse for business than the Iraq war.

Leo van Wijk said the drop in bookings for flights to Asia was "really dramatic" and added overall March traffic was down about 9 percent on the previous year. The official March traffic figures are due on Thursday.

"Across the board SARS has made a lot of people scared to fly, especially to Asia. Its impact is much bigger than the war in Iraq," the head of Europe's No. 4 airline said.

The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which is spreading in Asia, has already killed nearly 80 people worldwide while 2,300 people have been infected.

Van Wijk told journalists that KLM expected savings of 500 to 600 million euros (($540-$648 million) annually from a restructuring plan that would shave as much as a tenth of the staff of over 30,000.

These savings would come into full effect in two or three years' time, he said.

KLM shares closed up 12.8 percent, doubling earlier gains on news of the amount of expected cost savings and more alliance talks. The stock is still down over a third this year.

"For investors, KLM has given just the right signal. It is preparing for a merger and now it is going to doll itself up to be a beautiful bride," asset manager Bart Groot at Bank Nachenius said.

Asked about its ongoing alliance talks, Van Wijk reiterated that a decision would be taken before the end of the year but added a number of regulatory issues remained to be resolved.

He said that British Airways Plc, a leading partner of the oneworld alliance, would still want a full merger with KLM but regulators would not allow that.

"BA doesn't want a decision (about alliances) at this time.

They want a merger ... but that can only get approval if they give up free skies to the US, which they are not prepared to do," he said.

Another possible partner is Air France and its SkyTeam grouping. "Whether we will decide in June, September or November will depend on what the regulators will decide." British Airways said KLM would be welcome in oneworld and confirmed a merger was not in the cards.

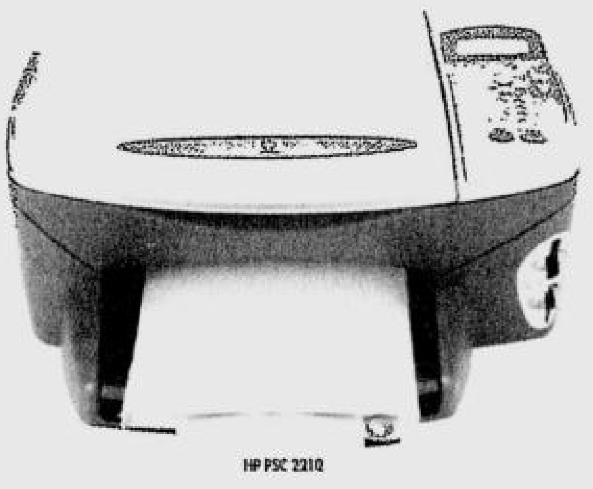
In Paris, Air France said discussions with KLM were continuing but nothing had yet been decided.

KLM has for some time been in separate talks with its two larger rivals about potential partnerships, and speculation has bubbled lately that a deal could be imminent. *Reuters*

Surf's up this summer!
100hrs
Do more. Create more.
HP all-in-one. Print. Fax. Scan. Copy

100 hours online, on us.

Do more and create more with the HP All-in-one. Because from March 1 to April 30, 2003, every purchase of an HP PSC 750 All-in-one, HP PSC 2110, HP PSC 2210, HP PSC 1210, HP Officejet 5110 or an HP Officejet 6110 printer gets you a FREE PACIFIC INTERNET prepaid card worth P1,000! That's worth 100 hours online. Now you can print, scan, copy, fax* and surf. So hurry, contact your nearest HP dealer now!



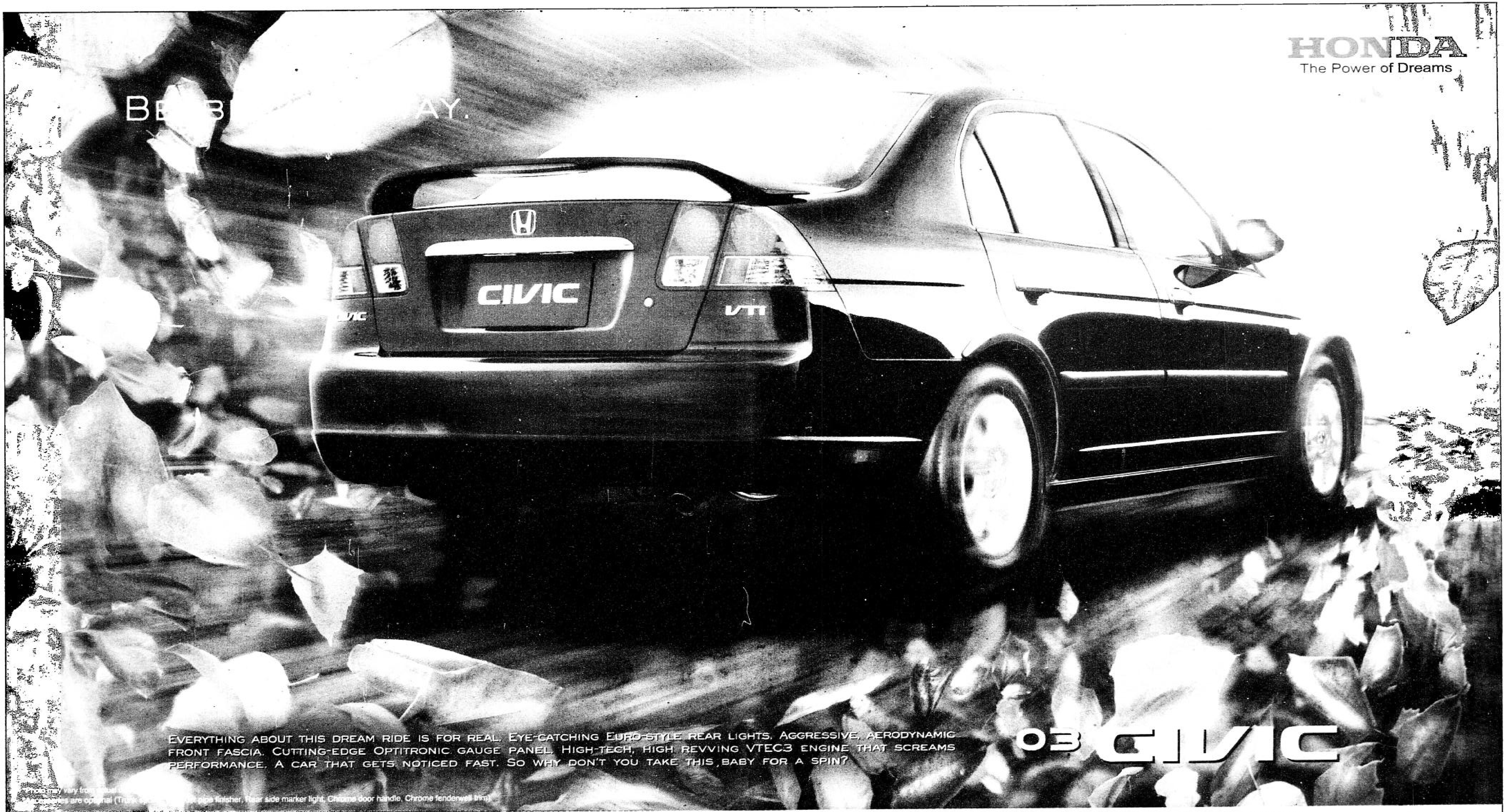
invent

For more information, call (632) 867-3557
or toll-free 1-800-1331-4488
or email ph.contact@hp.com

*available only for HP Officejet 5110, HP Officejet 6110 and HP PSC 2210 models.

HP Resellers: ABC Computers 721-4960, 722-0370 • Accent Micro Products 634-2417, 927-7330 • Asianic 781-8245 to 48 • CBX (032) 231-4369, 253-0602 • Columbia Group of Companies 564-1841 • Columbia Computer Center – Davao (082) 221-1475, 221-1678 • Columbia Computer Superstore 633-9307 to 10, 809-5475 • Complink Marketing Inc. 920-9140 up to 41, 893-1489 • Dillsha 740-1888, 740-1891 • Electroworld 813-6154, Electroworld Cebu (032) 345-2787 to 89, • Falkee Computer Systems 727-3771 to 78 • Infoworx 897-5147, 897-5279• Lenton (032) 253-9449/9451• MDR Microware Sales (032) 255-4415, (032) 254-5382 • NT Computer Mart 927-2507, 633-4690 • Perfectbyte 723-1718 • PC Express 718-2828, 718-3838 • PC Live 631-6233, 925-5688 • Prodata 414-4336/47, 723-0030 • Silicon Valley 812-6734/43 • The Computer Authority 636-5515 • Thinking Tools Inc (032) 254-2227 • Total Quality Machines 526-4503 • Villman Computer Systems, Inc. 929-0411, 892-2222
©2003 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L. P.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0856, Series of 2003.



EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS DREAM RIDE IS FOR REAL. EYE-CATCHING EURO-STYLE REAR LIGHTS. AGGRESSIVE, AERODYNAMIC FRONT FASCIA. CUTTING-EDGE OPTITRONIC GAUGE PANEL. HIGH-TECH, HIGH REVVING VTEC3 ENGINE THAT SCREAMS PERFORMANCE. A CAR THAT GETS NOTICED FAST. SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THIS BABY FOR A SPIN?

[illegible] may vary from actual [illegible]
[illegible] are optional (Trunk [illegible] pipe finisher, Rear side marker light, Chrome door handle, Chrome fenderwell trim)

For details, call or visit any of the following authorized Honda dealerships nationwide.

Honda Cars Makati, Inc. Tel. Nos.: 852-4181 to 82 Fax: 852-1158
Honda Cars Pasig Tel. Nos.: 634-2730 to 34 Fax: 637-2982
Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc. Tel. Nos.: 366-5701 to 24 Fax: 361-8445
Honda Cars Alabang Tel. Nos.: 807-7704; 807-7978; 809-4560 Fax: 809-5052
Honda Cars Quezon City, Inc. Tel. Nos.: 712-6850 to 61 Fax: 732-8559

Honda Cars Shaw Tel. Nos.: 717-1681 to 85 Fax: 725-7673
Honda Cars Manila Tel. No.: 338-4225 Fax: 562-4548 loc. 130
Honda Cars Fairview Tel. Nos.: 935-2629 Fax: 935-2645
Honda Cars Marikina Tel. Nos.: 942-3561; 998-1492 Fax: 998-1794

Honda Cars Pangasinan, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (075) 522-1488 to 89 Fax: (075) 522-1490
Honda Cars Cebu, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (032) 231-3502 to 08 Fax: (032) 231-4488
Honda Cars San Pablo, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (049) 562-7713 to 14 Fax: (049) 562-7712
Honda Cars Davao, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (082) 221-7406 to 07; 221-7042; 221-4129 Fax: (082) 221-7407
Honda Cars Negros Occidental Tel. Nos.: (034) 441-1271 to 77 Fax: (034) 441-1276

Honda Cars Pampanga, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5554; 963-5119; 963-5556 Telefax: (045) 963-5554
Honda Cars Tarlac, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (045) 982-8002 to 06 Fax: (045) 982-8007
Honda Cars Cagayan Tel. Nos.: (088) 858-4010 to 12 Fax: (088) 858-4015
Honda Cars Gen. Santos, Inc. Tel. Nos.: (083) 553-9797; (083) 301-3108 Fax: (083) 301-3109

www.hondaphil.com

Angono Band releases San Pedro marches in new music album

IN OBSERVANCE of the first death anniversary of National Artist for Music Maestro Lucio San Pedro on March 31, the Angono National Symphonic Band (ANSB) releases his popular marches in a music album, "Jubilate."

The album includes the "Festival March" (1940), the "Makisig at Mabikas March" (1940), "Victory or Parade March" (1942), "Biratang Bukid March" (1945) and "Jubilate March Heroic" (1970), whose orchestral version is played by the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra in state functions.

Among the more recent compositions include the Centennial March which was commissioned by the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) in 1998 in celebration of the centennial of Philippine Independence and "The President March," commissioned in 1992 by the Malacañang for then President Fidel Ramos.

The Band, founded and conducted by Maestro San Pedro himself, is the only band in the country to win championships in two national music competitions –the National Band Contest in 1960 and the San Miguel Corporation's "Balik Banda" contest in 1979.

The band has performed in prestigious concert halls around the country.

In 1997, the Band was featured in a special concert in Hong Kong at the International Convention Center.

Music aficionados describe ANSB as a "band which sounds like a symphony orchestra."

The Band is headed by Prof. Manuel San Pedro Bautista Sr. as principal conductor, Prof. Agripino "Nonoy" Diestro as resident conductor and Cris Cedric Gabriel Rojas as associate conductor.

"Jubilate" is available in CDs and cassettes.

For inquiries, call the ANSB at 651-0528 or the CCP Gift Shop at 832-1125.

International Christian program airs on IBC 13

"HOUR of Power," the international TV program seen by millions of Christians worldwide, now airs on IBC 13 on Sundays, 8 to 9 a.m.

Dr. Robert Schuller, the renowned pastor behind the popular one-hour program, provides viewers with messages which become a source of strength and hope to them.

In each program, Dr. Schuller teaches positive theology and interviews dynamic individuals whose life experiences exemplify "possibility thinking."

As a speaker, motivator and author, Dr. Schuller continues to encourage and inspire people of all nationalities, races, creeds and faiths.

Those interested in contacting the Church or Dr. Schuller can directly e-mail the Church in California at johnc@crystalcathedral.org or write to Hour of Power at P.O. Box 118, Dasmariñas Village, Makati City.

Dish serves April lineup of bands, artists

SOUTH BORDER. Virgin Café tomorrow night.

EXPERIENCE entertaining nights with the band lineup this month at Dish at the 3rd level of Rockwell's Powerplant Mall.

Get energized on Mondays as Malik, the talented and newest addition to GMA ·7's Sunday noontime show, "SOP," performs with Escape Band (April 7 and 28).

SHOWS

Groove to the music of Rockin' Revival on April 14 and 28.

Sway to the beat of Spirit of '67 on Tuesdays, as they perform favorite '60s and '70s music (April 8, 15, 22 and 29).

On Wednesdays, feel the distinct sound of Freestyle (April 9), Chedie with Parliament Syndicate (April 16) and Joey's 92.3 FM featured band Q and A (April 30).

Thursdays, catch the cool sound of Barbie's Cradle on April 24, Thursday.

Rex Navarrete returns to Dish with a special, one-night show, "The Amazing Rex," April 10, presented by Smart Gold.

Tabu, model Amanda Griffin's hottest swimwear line will be unveiled in a fashion show on April 23.

Have an upbeat weekend with Paolo Santos, playing back to back with Pido with Take One (April 11 and 25).

Saturdays feature 17:28 and The Rage Band (April 5, 12 and 19), Chronic and The Rage (April 26) and rave with "The Followers of Light" DJ night special tomorrow, April 5.

Lani at Aliw

THE MANILA Broadcasting Company (MBC) Super Summer concert series continues with Lani Misalucha performing at Aliw Theater in Pasay City at 9 tonight.

Entrance to the concert is free for Star City park goers with ride-all-you-can pop tags. For inquiries, call 891-5619.

Star City tickets are also available at National Bookstore outlets, Robinsons Place and Galleria, Tower Records, Music Museum, Greenbelt 1 and Glorietta 4 ticket booths, TicketWorld or through www.ticketworld.com.ph

Virgin Café

VIRGIN Café Tomas Morato presents today's hottest and much-awaited performers this weekend.

Jimmy Bondoc, the man behind the hit song "Let Me Be the One," takes center stage tonight with Chedi and Parliament Syndicate.

South Border, with new vocalist Vince Alares, takes energy to a higher level tomorrow night.

Duncan Ramos also grooves and dances the night away with today's pop/R&B hits back-to-back with Toy Symphony.

For inquiries, call 373-8766 or 926-8039.

Divas and Janno

BE dazzled and feel the high right in your living room at 8 tomorrow night as Viva Cinema airs "Divas and I," a special musical event spun off from the record-breaking album, "Divas and I."

"Divas and I" was held at the Big Dome and featured Janno Gibbs with Pilita Corrales, Lani Misalucha, Pops Fernandez, Jaya and Bing Loyzaga.

'Time Together'

BALLADEER and songwriter Jose Mari Chan and pop-jazz singer Vernie Varga combine powerful chords in a show at Le Pavilion on Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

Sexy star Diana Zubiri will have a special participation in the show.

The show is a benefit for the pediatric wards 9 and 11 of the Philippine General Hospital and Pasay General Hospital.

The raffle after the show entitles viewers a chance to win a Mitsubishi Pajero and three brand new scooters.

Ang4gettables repeat

THE ANG4GETTABLES will mount a repeat of their show at Merk's Bar Bistro, 3rd level, Greenbelt 3, Makati, April 10 at 8 p.m.

Ang4gettables, composed of Bimbo Cerrudo, Isay Alvarez, Pinky Marquez and Dyords Javier, has been providing music and laughter to regular habitués of Merk's Bar Bistro every Thursdays of March.

On their 10th year as a quartet, Ang4gettables has won raves for their remarkable performances here and abroad.

Riotous Rex

THE RIOTOUS humor of San Francisco-based Filipino-American comedian Rex Navarrete will heat up the stage on April 9 as 105.1 Crossover divert from its usual monthly concert series "Crossover Presents" with this special stand-up comedy feature at the Captain's Bar of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

The comedian will also be seen in a show, "Rex in eXceSs" tomorrow, April 5, at Music Museum and "Rex on High," April 12 at Tagaytay Higlands Amphitheater.

The Tagaytay show is presented by the Xavier School class of 1980 Luceat Fund foundation Inc. (XS80LLTFI)

Tickets to "Crossover Presents" are available at the Crossover office (712-9755, 712-9764), TicketWorld (891-5610) and at Captain's Bar (750-8888).

Doors to the two-hour shows at the Music Museum and Tagaytay Highlands Amphitheater open at 7:30 p.m. Shows start 9 p.m.

Part of the proceeds of the event will be donated to the Xavier School trust fund.

Ticket prices range from P500 to P900.

For inquiries, call the XS80LLTFI at 0919-2209333, 732-2182, 0919-9225228, roma168@edsamail.com.ph or contact Music Museum at 721-0635/6726 or Tagaytay Highlands (046) 413-2093, (046) 413-0829.

Farewell concert

THE UP Concert Chorus marks the beginning of its seven-month world tour with a special farewell concert, "Hinabing Himig," tomorrow night, April 5, at the Crossroad 77 Convenarium (Mother Ignacia cor. Scout Reyes Sts., Quezon City). Showtime is 8 p.m.

For tickets and inquiries, call Crossroad 77 at 372-5407 to 11.

E! presents 'Boracay Bodies' summer special

E! ENTERTAINMENT TV Philippines cooks up a sizzling summer with a special coverage of the grand finals of Boracay Bodies Model Search 2003 to be aired in May.

With event presentors Longines, Philips and The Sun Village Resort, the highly anticipated finals on April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sun Village Resort will see 30 good looking and gorgeous candidates vying for the titles. They were chosen after the preliminary competitions held at Dish in Makati and at Club Bazzura in Boracay.

The finalists to Boracay Bodies Model Search 2003 are Tristan Henry Aguirre, Frederico Barrera, Alexander Cenzon, Gino de Guia, Jun Cesar Galita, Paolo Inocencio, G-Ford Lara, Starsky Magahin, Ryan Mendoza, Ralph Padilla, Leo Reyes, Jan Christopher Santos, Vincent Santos, Ryan Silverio, Donald Tiu, Marc-Anne Banzuelo, Celeste Celis, Sharlene Ferrer, Lizette Gambe, Ma. Theresa Gavieres, Tiffany Gonzales, Alexandra Hardy, Mary Grace Layug, Elaine Matawaran, Vanessa Rivera, Arianne Rose Sigue, Alma Susvilla, Ma. Sarah Angela Valeco and Ma. Deanna Valero.

Noted haute couture designer Frederick Peralta will unveil his exclusive resort collection as he dresses up all the candidates, while fashion maverick Robbie Carmona will be at the helm of production as director.

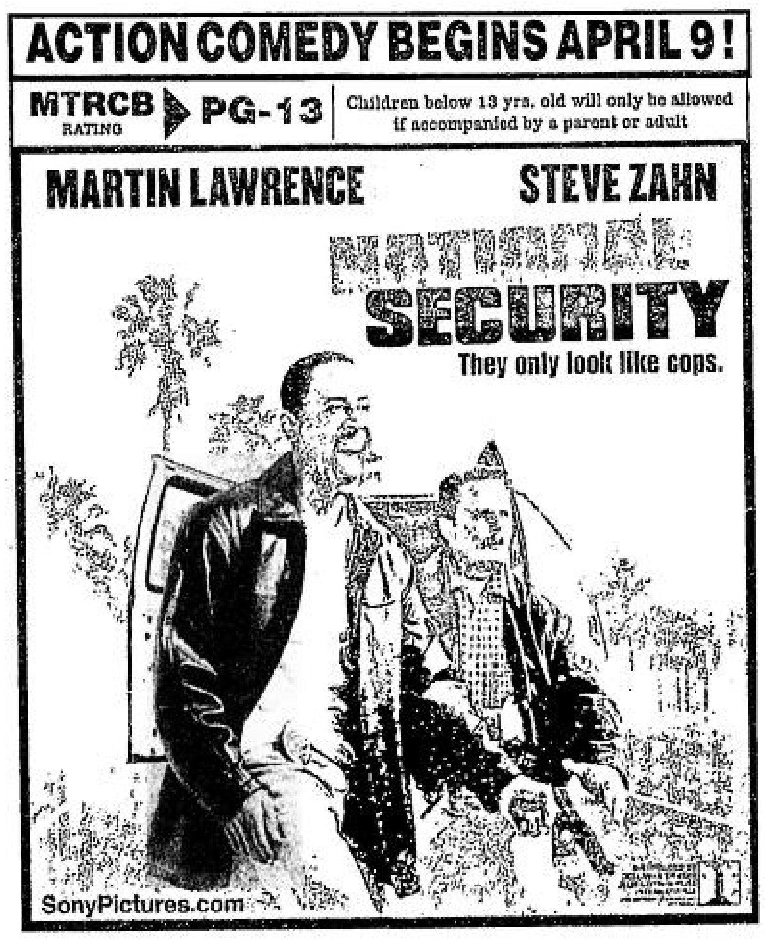
The finals will be hosted by TV personalities Hans Montenegro, Lana Asanin and Zorah Andam.

Exciting prizes await this year's winners including watches from Longines, Real Flat TVs from Philips, beach wear from Frederick Peralta, and all-expense-paid trips to Boracay, with accommodations at The Sun Village Resort, and at Busuanga in Palawan.

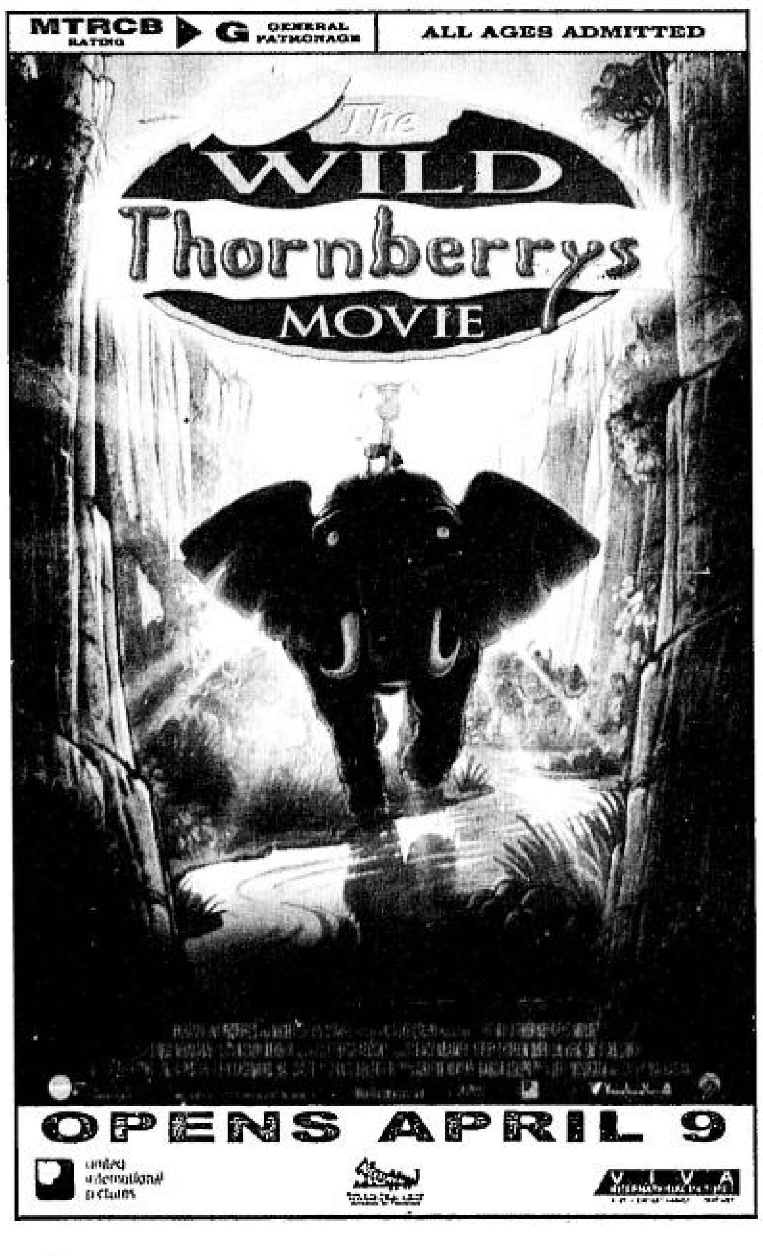
The sun-kissed tropical paradise that is Boracay promises infinite excitement day and night, something that the 30 candidates will definitely enjoy.

The Sun Village Resort, the official residence of the candidates in Boracay, has especially prepared a line-up of activities that will make their stay a memorable one.

Boracay Bodies Model Search 2003 is sponsored by Southeast Asian Airlines, B Salon, The Orchids Resort, Club Bazzura, Dish and Barcelo Sarabia Manor Hotel and Convention Center.



ACTION COMEDY BEGINS APRIL 9!
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
MARTIN LAWRENCE STEVE ZAHN
NATIONAL SECURITY
They only look like cops.
SonyPictures.com



MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE ALL AGES ADMITTED
The WILD Thornberrys MOVIE
OPENS APRIL 9
united international pictures VIVA

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

GANGS OF NEW YORK R18 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45	THE CORE P13 12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00	JUST MARRIED P13 12:10, 2:20, 4:30 6:40, 8:50, 11:00
THE RECRUIT P13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	WILLARD P13 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	THE RECRUIT P13 1:30, 3:55, 6:20, 8:45, 11:10

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

THEATRE-MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 THE RECRUIT 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55 P13
CINEMA 2 THE CORE 11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40 P13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

APR 4, 03	VIVA GREATEST HITS Series 2 - Repeat	9:00 PM
APR 5, 03	REX NAVARRETE	8:30 PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0636.

MTRCB RATING R-18 Strictly for Adults Only
OPENS TODAY
DARE TO MAKE A WISH!
EVIL'S DESIRE BECOMES YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE!
PREPARE FOR THE SCARIEST CONSEQUENCE THAT LEADS TO HELL AND DEEP DOWN UNDER!!
WishMaster 4
THE PROPHECY FULFILLED

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	SEX DRIVE
Ali 2	DREAMCATCHER
Ali 3	THE RECRUIT
Ali 4	THE CORE
Ali 5	WILLARD
Ali 6	GANGS OF NEW YORK
Ali 7	TEARS OF THE SUN

FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS

Farmers 1	SEX DRIVE
Farmers 2	VIRGIN PEOPLE 3

ARANETA COLISEUM

APR 4 - 13	CHINA CIRCUS IS POSTPONED. Pls watch for further announcement

ELEPHANT WORLD

APR 05	3 PM
APR 06	3 PM
APR 12	3 PM

Viva introduces young balladeer

DEXTER.

PILITA Corrales and Viva's Vic del Rosario –the same team that discovered the likes of Martin Nievera, Jaya and Gary Valenciano–brings another promising balladeer to the local music scene.

The new talent is Dexter, a Filipino singer raised in Australia, who recently launched his debut album, "Puso sa Puso," under Viva Records.

With a diploma in contemporary music and winner of Australia's FBC best male performer award in 2000, Dexter was part of the West End cast of "Miss Saigon" from 1998 to 1999. He also joined the musical's Australian production at Sydney's Capitol Theater.

Dexter started performing at an early age in school variety shows and rock bands. He graduated to solo singing for the Filipino-Australian community. He has also supported and participated in various shows for charities like WestEnd Cares for AIDS Awareness and Greenpeace.

Dexter's album was co-produced by Vic and Vincent del Rosario, with multi-awarded Margot Gallardo as executive producer and Civ Fontanilla as album coordinator.

Other collaborators on the album were Moy Ortiz of The Company, who did the design concept and art direction; Ronnie Salvacion for photography; Jing Monis and Juan Sarte of Propaganda for hair and makeup.

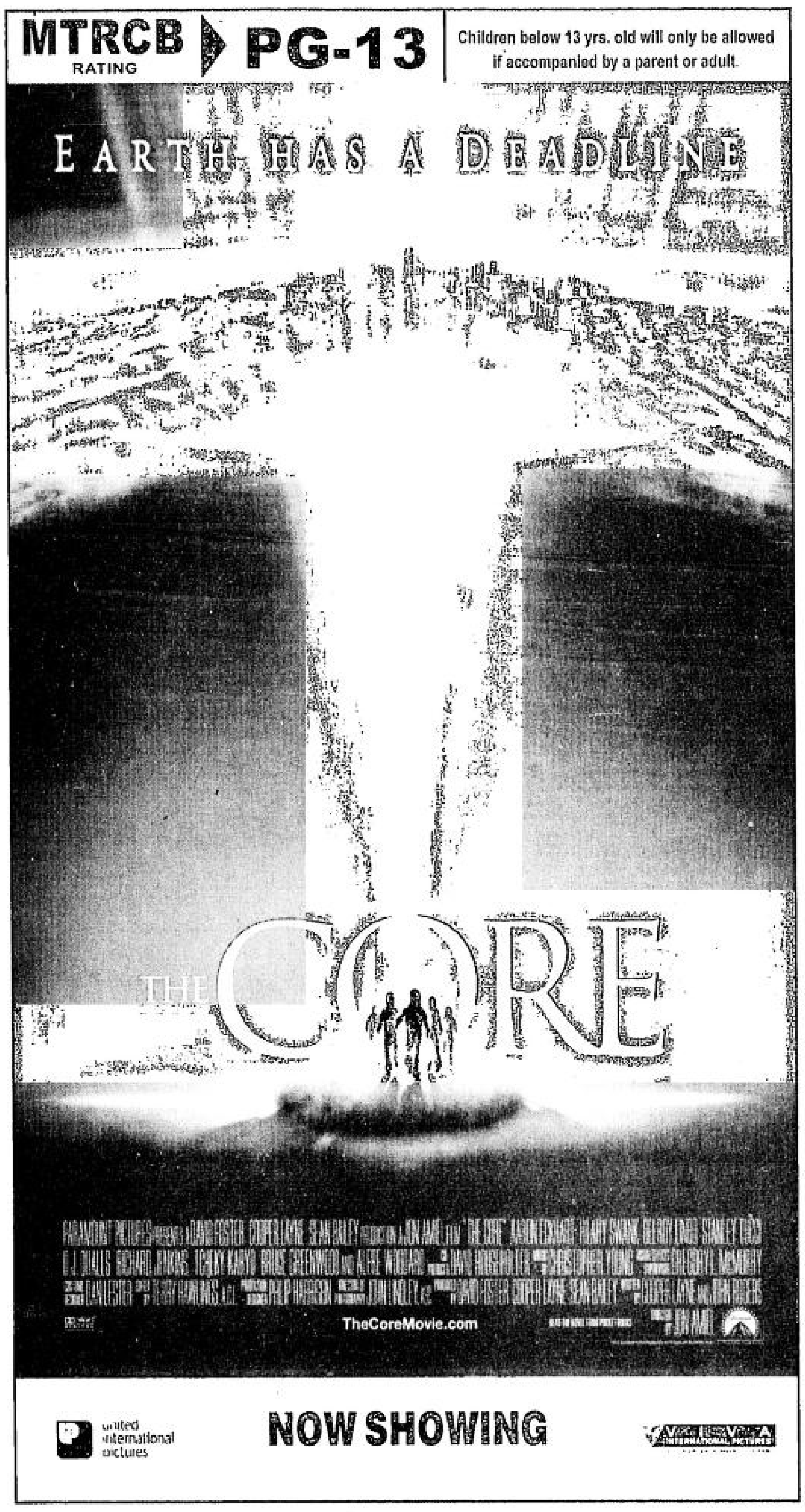
"Puso sa Puso" contains 14 cuts, bannered by the carrier single, "Bakit Nga Ba Hindi," a duet with Bituin Escalante. The song is composed by Moy Ortiz and Edith Gallardo.

Moy and Edith also collaborated on six other cuts–the title track "Puso sa Puso," "Nawala ang Puso Ko," "Pa'no Nangyari 'Yon," "Laging Nagmamahal," "Wag Kang Mag-iba" and "Nasa Iyo Na."

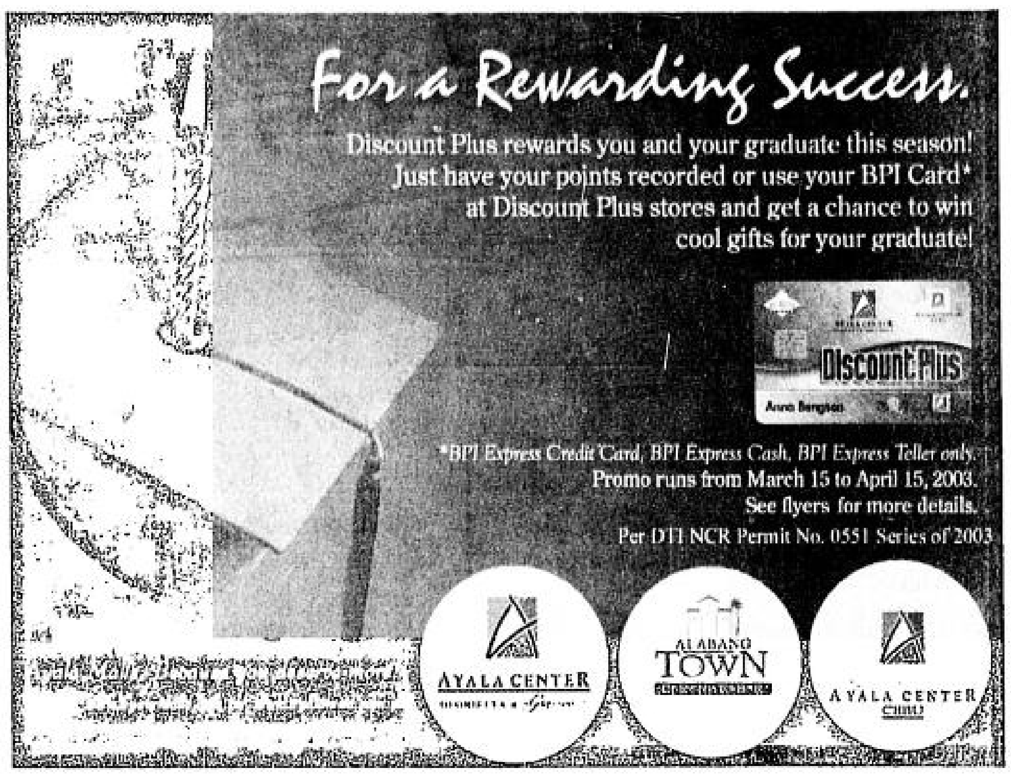
With Babsie Molina, Gallardo wrote "Alam Kong Alam Mo," "Ikaw Lamang Pala" and "They Know It's Over."

With Andre Castillo, Gallardo composed "Higit sa Lahat" and "Ayokong Magtanong."

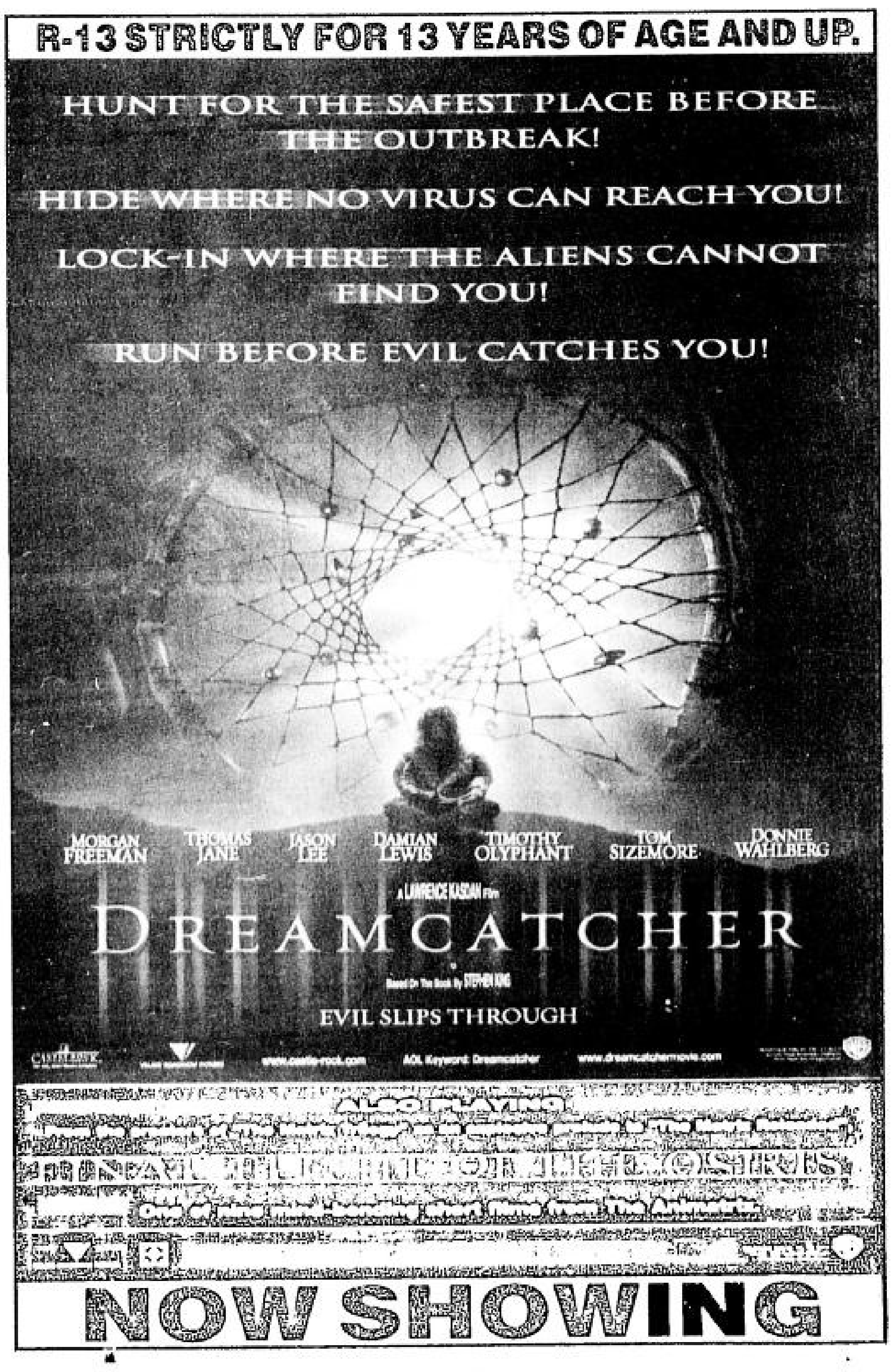
The CD also contains "One By One," arranged by Marc Lopez and a revival of the "Chicago" hit "Happy Man," arranged by Mon Espia.


MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
EARTH HAS A DEADLINE
THE CORE
TheCoreMovie.com
united international pictures
NOW SHOWING

AYALA CINEMAS
vibe prepaid
ADMIT ONE
The perfect ending to a perfect meal.
A Free movie ticket!
For a minimum food purchase of P250.00 at any of Glorietta 2 Row Restaurants
entitles you to a promo coupon with the following perks:
- Free G1 movie ticket (admit 1) for every 3 G1 movie tickets bought.
- PLDT Vibe Internet Trial Card or premium items.
One promo coupon per transaction only.
Promo period: April 1 to May 31, 2003.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AI-175, Series of 2003.
AYALA CENTER

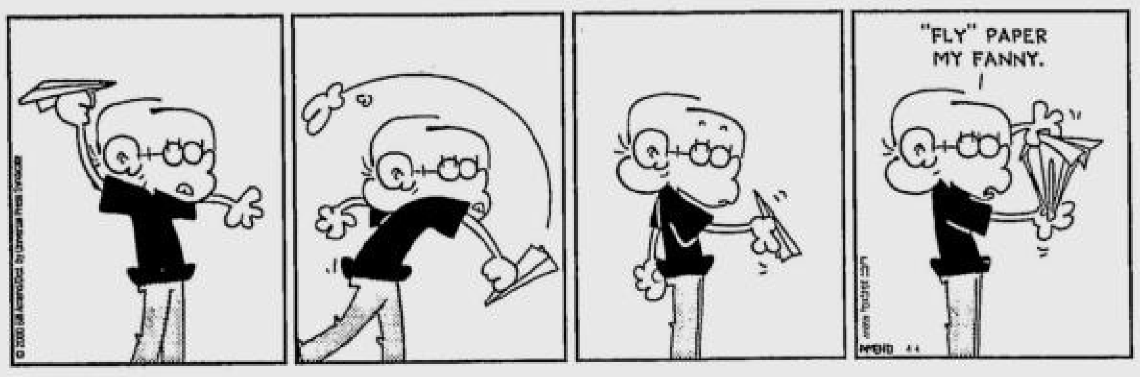

For a Rewarding Success.
Discount Plus rewards you and your graduate this season! Just have your points recorded or use your BPI Card* at Discount Plus stores and get a chance to win cool gifts for your graduate!
Discount Plus
*BPI Express Credit Card, BPI Express Cash, BPI Express Teller only.
Promo runs from March 15 to April 15, 2003.
See flyers for more details.
Per DTI NCR Permit No. 0551 Series of 2003
AYALA CENTER
ALABANG TOWN
AYALA CENTER CEBU

THE HORROR SENSATION THAT INSPIRED A HOLLYWOOD RE-MAKE
the Ring
THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION
NOW ON VIDEO
P 250 only ON ORIGINAL VCD
OWN IT, IF YOU DARE!
SOLAR ENTERTAINMENT


R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP.
HUNT FOR THE SAFEST PLACE BEFORE THE OUTBREAK!
HIDE WHERE NO VIRUS CAN REACH YOU!
LOCK-IN WHERE THE ALIENS CANNOT FIND YOU!
RUN BEFORE EVIL CATCHES YOU!
MORGAN FREEMAN
THOMAS JANE
JASON LEE
DAMIAN LEWIS
TIMOTHY OLYPHANT
TOM SIZEMORE
DONNIE WAHLBERG
A LAWRENCE KASDAN Film
DREAMCATCHER
Based On The Book By STEPHEN KING
EVIL SLIPS THROUGH
www.castle-rock.com
AOL Keyword: Dreamcatcher
www.dreamcatchermovie.com
NOW SHOWING

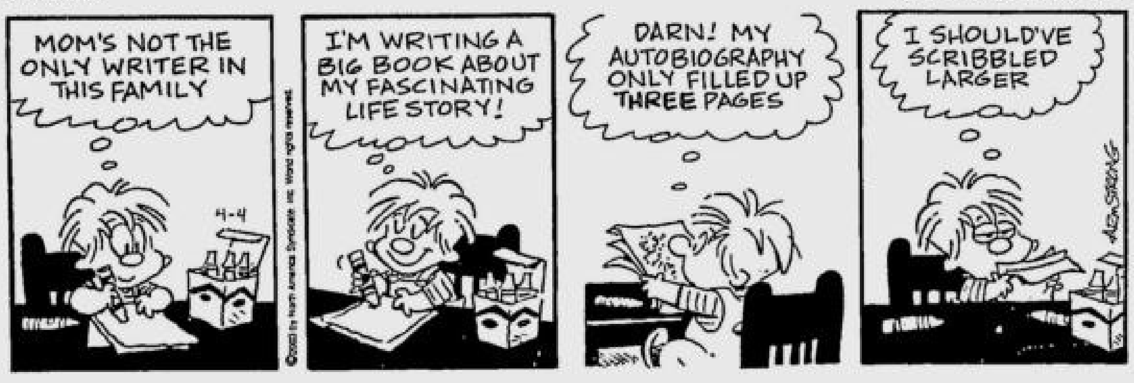
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


"FLY" PAPER MY FANNY.

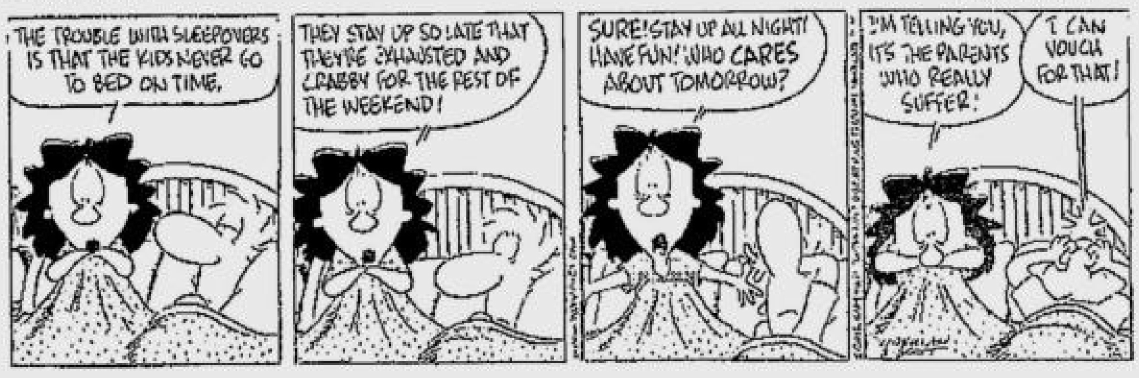
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


MOM'S NOT THE ONLY WRITER IN THIS FAMILY
4-4
I'M WRITING A BIG BOOK ABOUT MY FASCINATING LIFE STORY!
DARN! MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY ONLY FILLED UP THREE PAGES
I SHOULD'VE SCRIBBLED LARGER
ARMSTRONG

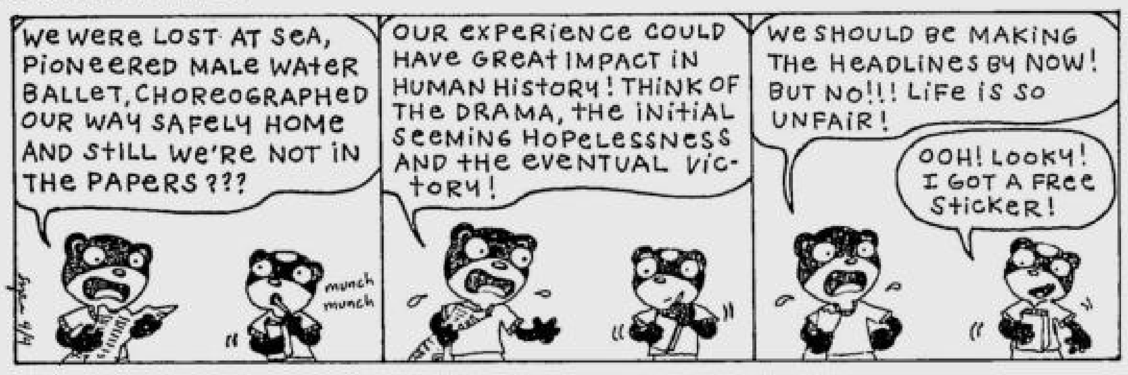
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


THE TROUBLE WITH SLEEPOVERS IS THAT THE KIDS NEVER GO TO BED ON TIME.
THEY STAY UP SO LATE THAT THEY'RE EXHAUSTED AND CRABBY FOR THE REST OF THE WEEKEND!
SURE! STAY UP ALL NIGHT! HAVE FUN! WHO CARES ABOUT TOMORROW?
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S THE PARENTS WHO REALLY SUFFER.
I CAN VOUCH FOR THAT!

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WE WERE LOST AT SEA, PIONEERED MALE WATER BALLET, CHOREOGRAPHED OUR WAY SAFELY HOME AND STILL WE'RE NOT IN THE PAPERS???
munch munch
OUR EXPERIENCE COULD HAVE GREAT IMPACT IN HUMAN HISTORY! THINK OF THE DRAMA, THE INITIAL SEEMING HOPELESSNESS AND THE EVENTUAL VICTORY!
WE SHOULD BE MAKING THE HEADLINES BY NOW! BUT NO!!! LIFE IS SO UNFAIR!
OOH! LOOKY! I GOT A FREE STICKER!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are successful in large measure due to your tenacity and hard work. You're confident, composed and professional. You want to make a lifelong commitment to something. You will not compromise your beliefs. Money is not your motivating factor in life. Major changes take place for you this coming year.
Birthdate of: Bette Davis, actress; Gregory Peck, actor; Colin Powell, Secretary of State.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Trust the moneymaking ideas that occur to you in the next three or four weeks. Some of them might be worth serious consideration. (You're very good at initiating new things.)

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Starting today and for the next few weeks, you will feel a strong desire to communicate to others. You have something to say, and you want to say it. So say it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Working alone will please you now and in the month ahead. You need time by yourself to sort things out and get things done.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You're high-visibility now because the limelight is on you. Today, a female friend can be particularly helpful to you. Be open to this opportunity.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Discussions with a female boss, a mother or maternal figure are likely today. In turn, you might play this role to someone else. Look for ways to help someone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Start to voice out loud what your dreams and hopes for the future are. When you do this with others, it registers in your mind in a stronger way. (Then you are more likely to achieve these dreams.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Research into how to do something with respect to a mortgage, shared possessions or commonly held property gives you good answers now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Discussions with close friends and partners become deeper, more important and full of more mutual understanding. This is good. Life is always easier when you get along with those who are close to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You find it easy to do the homework or missionary work that you need to do in order to get the job done. You're willing to look for answers, plow through details and study what you need to know.

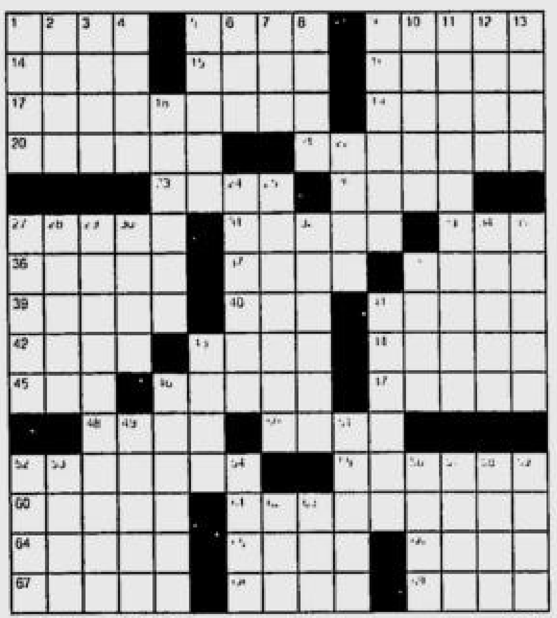
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Because of your conservative cover and solid values, few know how playful and prankish you are at times. Often the most bizarre things occur to you. Expect an interesting month ahead!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Family discussions during the next month become more important. People are ready to help each other now (with lots of talk).

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Talk to siblings, relatives and neighbors today and in the next few weeks. Lots of information can be shared among you.

DAILY CROSSWORD

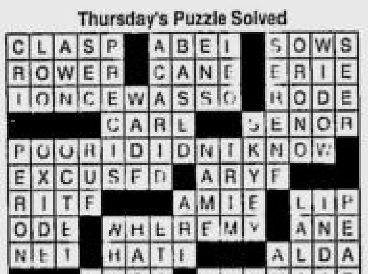
ACROSS
1 Sugar source
5 Brenner Pass range
9 Tea from India
14 Western state
15 Spike or brad
16 "My Dinner with Andre" director
17 Type of student
19 German sub
20 Chemical compound
21 "__ Place"
23 If all __ fails...
26 "...they shall __ the whirlwind"
27 "Lost Horizon" director
31 Cover the tab
33 Spree
36 March follower
37 Bridge seat
38 Verbal subtlety
39 Highlanders
40 Superlative ending
41 Lake in the Sierra Nevada
42 Perry's penner
43 __ mater
44 Skins
45 R-V hookup
46 Alaskan tongue
47 "A Delicate Balance" playwright
48 College pad
50 Plant starter
52 Visionary woman
55 Clicks the default button
60 French spa of note
61 Howard and Manon, to the Fonz
64 Oscar de la _
65 Something shared
66 Two-toed sloth
67 Chilean range
68 Pesky bug
69 Pathogen



By Gregory E. Paul
Scottdale, PA
4/4/03

DOWN
1 Shrubbery
2 Jazz singer James
3 British noble
4 Language of Bangkok
5 Cherub
6 __-de-dah
7 Racetrack stop
8 Shut with force
9 Charm
10 Native-born Israeli
11 Beach Boys hit
12 Woeful lament
13 Dole (out)
18 Models of perfection
22 Part of QED
24 "Remington __"
25 "In Praise of Folly" writer
27 Parakeet cells
28 Separated
29 Popular piano piece
30 Provoke
32 All one's assets
34 Battery electrode
35 Gander group
38 Peacock's pride
41 Swapped
43 Charity
46 Sports venues
49 Speak grandly
51 Director Lubitsch
52 Evening in Roma
53 Tied
54 Polluted haze
56 Self-satisfied
57 European eagle
58 Winter Palace ruler
59 Impure layer
62 Beat a retreat
63 Coach Parseghian

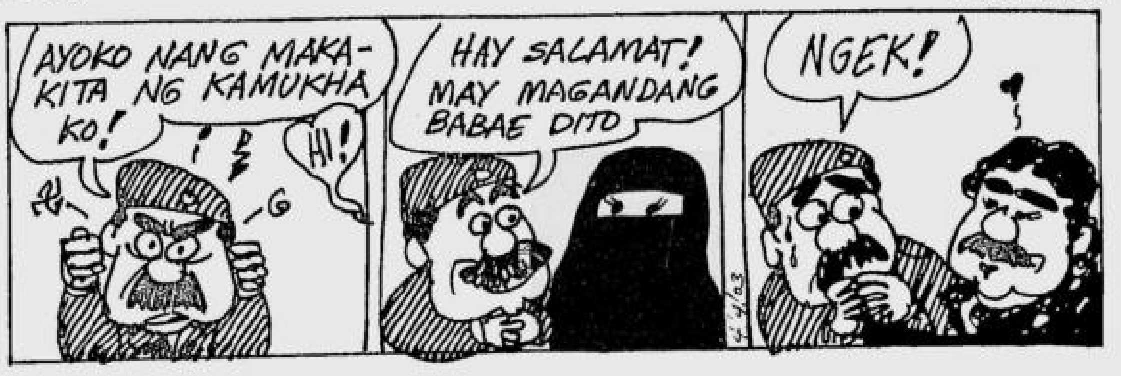
Thursday's Puzzle Solved



(C)2003 Tribune Media Services, Inc
All rights reserved
4/4/03

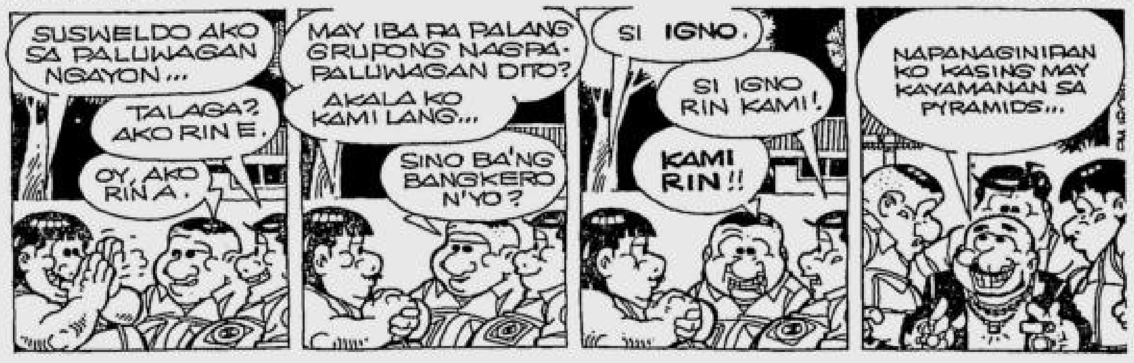
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


AYOKO NANG MAKAKITA NG KAMUKHA KO!
HI!
HAY SALAMAT! MAY MAGANDANG BABAE DITO
4-4-03
NGEK!

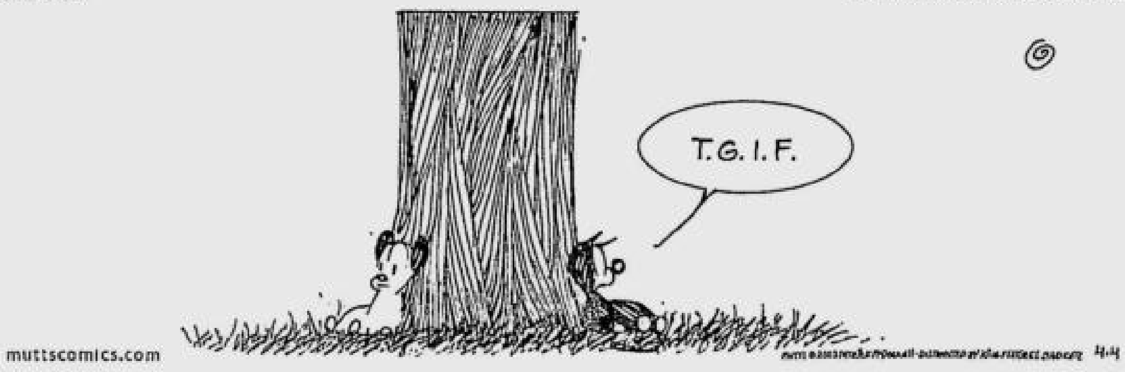
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


SUSWELDO AKO SA PALUWAGAN NGAYON...
TALAGA? AKO RIN E.
OY, AKO RIN A.
MAY IBA PA PALANG GRUPONG NAGPA-PALUWAGAN DITO?
AKALA KO KAMI LANG...
SINO BA'NG BANGKERO N'YO?
SI IGNO.
SI IGNO RIN KAMI!
KAMI RIN!!
NAPANAGINIPAN KO KASING MAY KAYAMANAN SA PYRAMIDS...

MUTTS

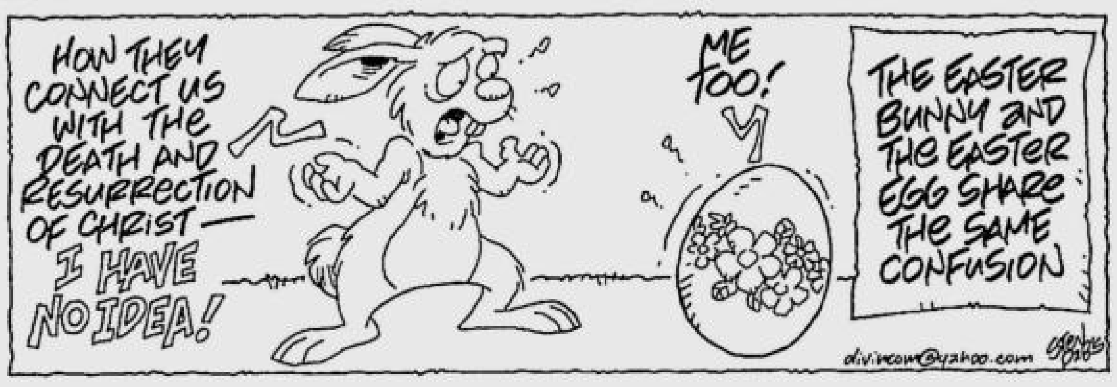
BY PATRICK McDONNELL



muttscomics.com

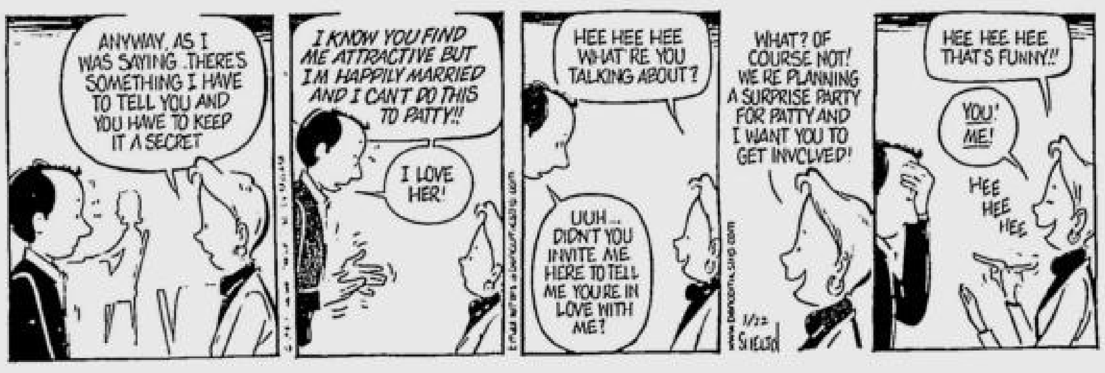
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


HOW THEY CONNECT US WITH THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST — I HAVE NO IDEA!
ME TOO!
THE EASTER BUNNY AND THE EASTER EGG SHARE THE SAME CONFUSION
divincow@yahoo.com

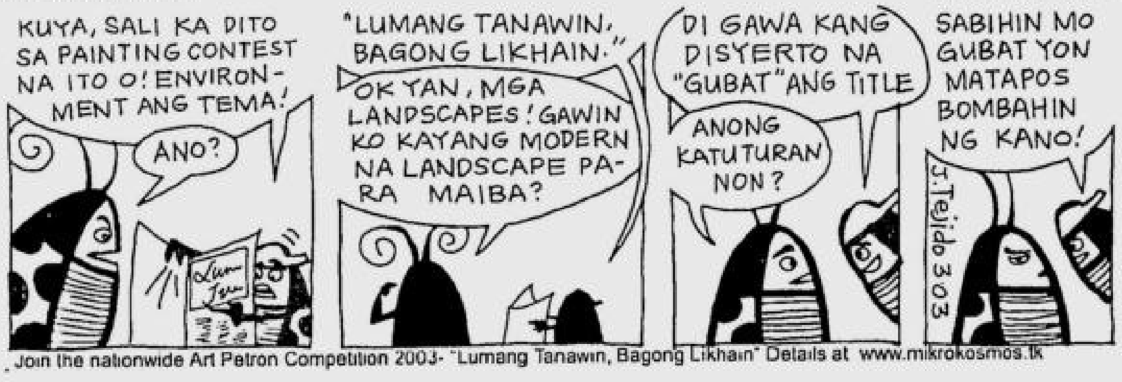
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


ANYWAY, AS I WAS SAYING, THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO TELL YOU AND YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT A SECRET
I KNOW YOU FIND ME ATTRACTIVE BUT I'M HAPPILY MARRIED AND I CAN'T DO THIS TO PATTY!!
I LOVE HER!
HEE HEE HEE WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
UUH... DIDN'T YOU INVITE ME HERE TO TELL ME YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ME?
WHAT? OF COURSE NOT! WE'RE PLANNING A SURPRISE PARTY FOR PATTY AND I WANT YOU TO GET INVOLVED!
HEE HEE HEE THAT'S FUNNY!!
YOU! ME!
HEE HEE HEE

MIKROKOSMOS

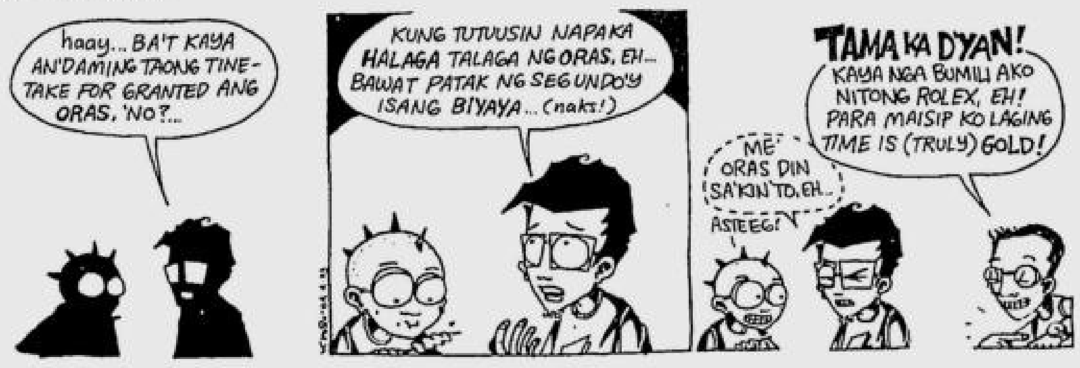
BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


KUYA, SALI KA DITO SA PAINTING CONTEST NA ITO O! ENVIRONMENT ANG TEMA!
ANO?
"LUMANG TANAWIN, BAGONG LIKHAIN."
OK YAN, MGA LANDSCAPES! GAWIN KO KAYANG MODERN NA LANDSCAPE PARA MAIBA?
DI GAWA KANG DISYERTO NA "GUBAT" ANG TITLE
ANONG KATUTURAN NON?
SABIHIN MO GUBAT YON MATAPOS BOMBAHIN NG KANO!
J. Tejido 3 03

Join the nationwide Art Petron Competition 2003- "Lumang Tanawin, Bagong Likhain" Details at www.mikrokosmos.tk

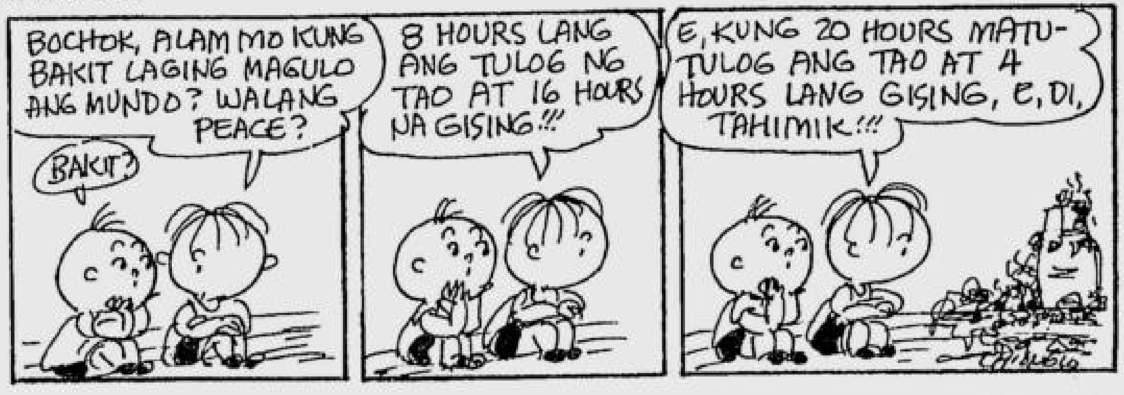
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


haay... BA'T KAYA AN'DAMING TAONG TINE-TAKE FOR GRANTED ANG ORAS, 'NO?...
KUNG TUTUUSIN NAPAKA HALAGA TALAGA NG ORAS, EH... BAWAT PATAK NG SEGUNDO'Y ISANG BIYAYA... (naks!)
TAMA KA D'YAN!
KAYA NGA BUMILI AKO NITONG ROLEX, EH! PARA MAISIP KO LAGING TIME IS (TRULY) GOLD!
ME ORAS DIN SA'KIN TO, EH...
ASTEEG!

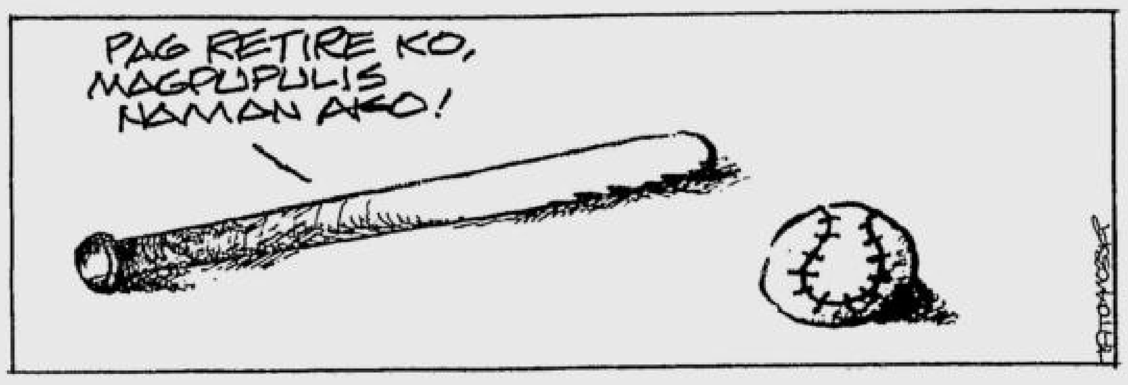
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


BOCHOK, ALAM MO KUNG BAKIT LAGING MAGULO ANG MUNDO? WALANG PEACE?
BAKIT?
8 HOURS LANG ANG TULOG NG TAO AT 16 HOURS NA GISING!!!
E, KUNG 20 HOURS MATUTULOG ANG TAO AT 4 HOURS LANG GISING, E, DI, TAHIMIK!!!

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


PAG RETIRE KO, MAGPUPULIS NAMAN AKO!

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978008 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

PERSONAL

COMPUTER REPAIR

COMPUTER/SALES/REPAIRS
PTRS/NOTEBOOK T8515186

MASSAGE

OOOOOH BOYZ 3233269

02 578-2742 COOL GUYS

AkhinThaiMasge50%OFF Bgulo&Cbc 09167066435Mla8347357

BOYS TOUCH CALL 889-1490

HUNKS TOUCH 0920-5182552

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8518650 ; 09206274243

JV MALE MASSUERS 24hrs 09202387878 ;7130279

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MODELO'S #277-9257

MSSG F/M 09192714186 ANJO

REX Massage 09164742807

Swedish Msge 0919-3455479

VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 472-7647 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

D'Millenium M/F 9347633

Edward 7289285 09193365411

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

THE TSUBOS
T.Morato Ave.QC-4140933

Wizard Massage 4213197

TUTORIAL LESSONS

ASAP 0918-9331629 /589-7128

Tutor All Levels • 373-1699

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Direct Maid Cook Yaya 7572089

IDEAL MAIDS YAYA 732-6750

Good-Maid-Yaya-Cook 853-3504

BEST MAIDS 772-4213

EXP. MAIDS W/NBI-4378347

Good Maid Yaya Boy4214652

Good Maid Yaya Driver7570579

Good Shepherd Emp 9287096

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

MAIDS 9124701•9124706

MAIDS
Always Available T822-6645

PROVINCIAL ALL AROUND
MAIDS
Call Joy 8712372•8722792

Prov'l Trusted Maids Yaya
CALL: 873-7065 • 873-7057

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/ NBI & BI 421-3828

We have maids oldsitters homecare 4128513/4121922

AVAILABLE MAID 7329642

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

CLOSED ALUM VAN 8240568

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

L-BAHAY 781-2564

LBahay7433225

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MAKATI

7.5M SAV 5BR3TB 8181266

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

ERA
LEASE OR SALE
CONDO/TOWNHOUSE
FOR AS LOW AS 15T A MONTH
GREENHILLS/MANDALUYONG
- Governor's Place
- Wack Wack condo
- Gilmore Heights
- San Francisco Gardens

BOHOL AVE./CAPITOL HILLS, Q.C.
- El Jardin del Presidente
- Golf Hill Terraces

FOR AS LOW AS 25T A MONTH
MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Salcedo Park
- Manhattan Square
- One Lafayette Square
- Two Lafayette Square

OFFICE SPACE
MAKATI CBD, SALCEDO
- Petron MegaPlaza
- The World Centre
- Paseo Center
- Burgundy Corporate Center
- Citibank Tower
- PhilAXA Tower
- 139 Corporate Center
- Cityland Herrera Tower

ORTIGAS CBD, PASIG
- Richmonde Plaza
- Tektite Tower

BETH 0917-8479276
867-8913 to 17
www.ERAphilippines.com
A Global Network with Over 3,000 Offices Worldwide

PASIG

418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. frnt College T-6414589, 09175372340

6.4Has Pasig 10 mins. to Ortigas T-6414589, 09175372340

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

NR LA SALLE BnewTwnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.265M 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Gnhts. new4br 2.1M 9487112

UD 4BR 3TB Marcos St. IVS 2cargrge dplx P2M 6562960

QUEZON CITY

•U.P. Vil 9210255/9219967•

RIZAL

NR ORTIGAS AVE EXT
ALG RIDGMONT AVE 180M²
RIDGMONT EXECUTIVE VIL
P6T/M² 9488240 / 9334971

SAFE OF FLOOD&FAULTLINE
NR ORTIGAS EXT
New French 4BR strong 1½ Story w/view 2carport LA150 P3M Call 9488240 / 9334971

OTHER AREAS

P67/DAY BAHAY-AGAD NO DP 0919-8804780

TAGAYTAY VACATION HOUSE VACANT LOT 6,500M² - P 800 M² TEL # 7342503/04 (MON-SAT)

CAVITE

•METRO SOUTH GATE SUBD.• 150sqm RUSH SALE 844-0995/0917-8414174

LAGUNA

Laguna Bel Air-No down ! 3/4Br 35%disct T896-0528

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

3BR SALCEDO PARK
P9M DBO Call 928-4431

BEL-AIR SOHO 4 AS LOW AS 8-10T/MO Liza 0920-7578922

MANDALUYONG

H-LANDS 2.3M BARGAIN 39M² NEW RUSH RFO 578-0030

•PIONEER HILANDS Off/Rsdl Rent 2 Own, 5-10% Down 2-3BR, Penthouse, Amenities P3.4-6M; P19M T0916-8594926

PASIG

1BR NR SHANGRRI-LA
P2.6M Call 928-4431

QUEZON CITY

Cubao P1.4M 10%DP 9132224

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE·

CAINTA TOWNHOUSE
near EVER-Gotesco Cainta
P600T S/P, ONLY P180T D/P
P8,750/mo. for 15 years
531-1384/0390 • (0920) 904-9632
www.guevent.com/homes

RIZAL

Town&Country Cainta nr Sta. Lucia Mall Bnew 3BR 2T&B Balcony w/garage 1.8M nego T-668-2658 / 0916-4542226

VARIED AREAS

Bay Gardens
Natural Sea Breeze Dramatic Sunset Site: "FUTURE MALL OF ASIA" 54.5 sqm with free 1 parking P4.3M 1BR 20%DP Ok 2 Move-In Robert 8-903-903 / 0917-8-903-903 California Gardens Square 2BR near Ruston Shangrila Only P25,000 reservation NO DOWN P2.1M P17K M/A Call 8-903-903 / 0917-792-2540

MARIKINA

PROVIDENT VILL 280LA 4800/SQM TEL 9488240

LOT

PARANAQUE

Sacrifice Sale! 365sqm
Filinvest Paranaque
near SM Sucat and NAIA
Clean Title 0916-6659887

QUEZON CITY

• GreenMdws 800m² 4121825 •

TNDNG SORA 436m² 6454036

RIZAL

Grand Hls Antipolo adj Beverly-H 446m² P3T 9220060

KINGSVILLE ROYALE Antipolo 180LA 3500/SQM 948-8240

OTHER AREAS

TAGAYTAY LOTS 120 SQ.M. TSP P 414,000 - CONTACT ALLAN 09202664482

TAGAYTAY VIEW LOTS-300m² up w/ club & golf memb 5yrs No DP INT. FREE 09175022722

BATANGAS

NASUGBU 563m² 712-2917 712-1435/ 0917-8422838

CAVITE

SWOODS 3.2Tm² 6454036

PROVINCIAL

Rare Investment opportunity
Affordability and Value at
Cavite Light Industrial Park
Ideally located along Maguyam Road, Carmona, Cavite
Phase 1 ready for occupancy
Phase II pre-selling easy terms
24 months to pay at ZERO interest
Call MERLE • 636-0111
or 634-2956

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Lawn • 373-1699

Mkna Lyla Chapel Courts Sec-A P295T 9220060

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

1.3HA RICEFIELD CANAMAN CAM.SUR 6460768 PERLA

1.3HA RICEFIELD CANAMAN CAM.SUR 6460768 PERLA

RESORT

Pansol Hot Spring priv 7870543

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

PASIG

1BR TB Kapitolyo 631-4958

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BEDSPACE

INVITING
MALE
BEDSPACERS
MLA LUXURY
CONDO
PEARL DR
ORTIGAS
CALL
0917-8341169

CONDO/TWNHSE

LAS PINAS

2Sty 3Bdrm Las Pinas 8721167 • 8728105 Evelyn

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANDALUYONG

Twnhse 4br 3tb w/Grg 532-0569

PARANAQUE

Nr NAIA 2BR 2T&B 24hr sec P8000/mo neg T-8251751

PASIG

Emerald Mansion Ortigas 2-3BR Furn/UnF • 671-5238

VARIED AREAS

5Condo Units QC 9210808 8156172

APARTMENT

MANILA

1BR NR P.GIL ST. 5534007 5642878

3136 Reposo St Old Sta Mesa 2BR w/ grge Tel. 715-7132

Sta. Mesa 2Stry • 715-4506

QUEZON CITY

Cubao Std Lady 3.5 9124428

OFC/RES 2TB/2STRY ALONG JPNY LINE 9279844

FOR LEASE

COMMERCIAL & OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE (42SQM UP TO 627SQM) 887-6003

ROOM & BOARD

B-DIA PASAY 8345973
FREE L/W SFURN P2,5T

BUSINESS RENTAL

PTAMO nr BUENDIA 1st Class bldg 62/129/148/185m² 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

MERCEDES

96 C220 1Own • 3742195

NISSAN

SAFARI 94 Nico 645T 8279306

TOYOTA

'97 TAMARAW FX P220T call Alice 4282368 / 9524241

A LEADING MANUFACTURING COMPANY INVITES EXCEPTIONAL APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONAL AREAS / POSITIONS:

SALES

College graduate, preferably business or engineering course
2-5 years technical sales experience, or sales of consumer goods
With good communication and interpersonal skills
Hardworking, self-driven, flexible, not more than 28 years old

FINANCE

Must be a Certified Public Accountant
2-3 years finance related experience
Proficient in computer software applications
Trustworthy, resourceful, and attentive to details
Not more than 28 years old

HUMAN RESOURCES

Psychology, Industrial Engineering, or Behavioral Science graduate
5-7 years HR/Personnel experience in plant/manufacturing operations, with at least 3 years in managerial position
With recognized contributions in assigned HR/Personnel area/s
Strong interpersonal skills; good communication skills
28-33 years old

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS

BS I.E. graduates
1-3 years focused experience in plant operations/business planning, or purchasing
Proficient in computer software applications
Analytical, well organized, and innovative
Not more than 28 years old

SECRETARY/OFFICE ASSISTANT

College graduate
2-5 years well-tracked secretarial experience to a senior executive
Excellent communication, computer, and interpersonal skills
Trustworthy and well organized
Not more than 28 years old

Attractive compensation package and career growth await successful applicants. Interested applicants should send their resumé with their transcript of records, and recent passport size photo to:

CV_RESUMÉ
P.O. Box No. 7410
Airmail Pasay Distribution Center

(Attach picture on the upper right hand corner of your resumé and indicate the position applied for on the upper left hand corner)

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

UTILITY VEHICLE/HVY EQUIP/ TRANSPORT

FOR SALE
CEMENT SILOS
CONCRETE PUMPS
TRANSIT MIXERS
IH and ISUZU
Call Jho Tel. 723-8408 / 724-4412

OTHER CAR BRANDS

LAND CRUISER 99MDL Lexus look full option
White Pajero Evolution - 98 Model manual trans
Silver MBenz 230E 89 Model full option White 77TKM 8937533 / 0917 8937533

Pajero Land Cruiser Surf Town-Hi Ace Delica Terano Trooper Safari Elf Canter Etc. Waranty txpd T-In ok 9126076/09178342020 Glen

SPECIAL CARS

1997 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY • P575K TEXT or CALL 0917-8951984

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

Starex MB100 Coaster Bus • Call 631-3496

1T VAN 7837228

ABC CARS/VANS
NEW MODEL ALL BRANDS
SELFDRIVE OR WITH DRIVER
MANILA 536-8822 • 303-9789
TIMOG Q.C. 426-2278 • 426-4084

A.TOYCO UDRIVE W/ DRIVER CARS/VANS/RENTAL 8006595

Bnew Van 8254058 8261045

★Vans Coaster Bus 440-9171

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917 (Roger)

MARIAN 8969956 CARS CSTER VANS BRDAL

P800/L3 9136710/4333682

REVO w/driver 9272821

Van 0917-6626993 • 6421840

VAN FOR HIRE 940-4807

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

UTILITY VEHICLE/HVY EQUIP/ TRANSPORT

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1HR FastCarLoan 7125202

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 8966633

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 7228943

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

OTHER EQUIPMENT

Cautery 4 Warts • 373-1699

PETS

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

WANTED TO BUY

DEFECT TV/COMPO 7325865

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
High Appraisal / Fast Cash
Repair / Polish Any watch
MANILA WATCH (Hyatt)
Tel. 804-0484 • 834-2886
INTL. WATCH (Greenhills)
Tel 724-4374 • 0917-6984292

GIA

Thailand Campus

World's #1 gemological institute
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

Become a recognized professional in the gem and jewelry industry

Diamonds Diploma Program starts May 26, 2003

GIA Thailand Since 1993

Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77
giathai@ksc15.th.com
Fax: (662) 236-9829
www.giathailand.com

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY
GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
CALL: 8390004
8390060

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Franchise Company needs mature man to manager and sell franchised chain throughout Philippines. Strong English and marketing background a must. Php35,000.00 per mo. to start. Fax resume to Mr. Stanley Thompson 8977300

FEMALE

Health Club Staff
18-25 College Graduate
259-0109 • 0919-3955020

SALES GIRL for Department Store Call 3642198/3642743

Secretary 09205119414

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

RAVEN URGENTLY NEEDED
RAVEN INT'L PHARM'L INC.
SECRETARY/LIAISON/ REPRESENTATIVES
Female between 20-25 yrs. old, Single, Hard working, College graduate, Computer literate
Preferably resident of Marikina, Cainta & Pasig
Schedule dates of interview
April 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2003
Time: 8:00 - 11:30 AM
every Saturday
Bring bio-data and transcript of records
Address: No. 25 Doña Justina St., Filinvest East, Antipolo City near Sta. Lucia Grand Mall, Marcos Hi-way

MALE/FEMALE

DIRECT HIRING OFC STAFF M/F 18-45 COL GRAD/LEVEL W/W/O EXP 475-2637 CECIL

30 SALESMEN 712-2917 712-1435/ 0917-8422838

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Executive Assistant, strong English, computer skills, MSword, Excel, Php12,000.00 per mo. to start, work in Makati. Fax resume to Mr. Stanley Thompson 8977300

Beautician, Dressmaker, Domestic Helper, Male Gym Instructor 843-2596

DIRECT HIRING OFC STAFF M/F 18-45 COL GRAD/LEVEL W-W/O EXP T-4370454 ADA

FREE Care Giver Seminar 4043528 5038009

★OFFICE STAFF/PERSONNEL★ 18-45yo w/wo exp Direct Hire URGENT9121488 ANGEL

HRD STF 09167054572 ECHO

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

HRD/SEC 09168259974 RUTH

Lic. Dentist (Asst. Dentist) #81 M. Almeda St., Pateros Tel. 642-8175 • 642-1436

OFC PERSON'L 09192535623 GLENDA

OFC STAFF w-wo exp. 20-50yo direct hire call Olga 9134470

GAY/BEAUTICIAN/MANICURE M/F 7328405/7429329

OFCSTF LEAH 09193352395 LEAH

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

B/SELL EDUC PLAN 2528373

B/SELL EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

B/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN 780-0106 / 0920-4188588

Earn & Travel 0917-8458644

Extra Income P20T/mo. 9284431

FRUIT PUREE 6653830 OR 09165944087 HENRY PLAZA

★EARN FROM HOME 9486030

Internet Cards TRI-ISYS 35% Blast39% Pacific40% 255-2608

Teen Adultwear 09167940002

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978008 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Dearly Remembered – Lovingly Missed

On her

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

SOCORRO MEDINO SIOZON

"CORING"

of Tacloban City

May 26, 1920 – April 5, 2002

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at the following Churches on Saturday, April 5, 2003:

- **Siozon Family Mausoleum**
  Leyte Memorial Park, Diit, Tacloban City .... 10:00 a.m.
- **Sacred Heart Parish**
  Tacloban City .... 5:00 a.m.
- **St. Joseph Parish**
  Dagami, Leyte .... 5:30 a.m.
- **Our Lady of Lourdes Parish**
  V&G, Tacloban City .... 5:30 a.m.
- **St. Joseph Parish**
  San Jose, Tacloban City .... 6:00 a.m.
- **St. Jude Parish**
  PHHC, Tacloban City .... 6:00 a.m.
- **Sto. Niño Parish**
  Tacloban City .... 12:00 nn & 5:30 p.m.
- **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**
  Tacloban City .... 5:00 a.m.
- **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**
  Tacloban City .... 5:30 p.m.

We request those whose lives she has touched to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.
'Lovingly remembered by her husband, children, in-laws, grandchildren, relatives and friends.

In our end is our beginning; In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory, unrevealed until it's the season,
something God alone can see.

Atty. EDWIN P. ACOBA

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on April 1, 2003 at the age of 59.

He was born on January 7, 1944 and the son of the late *Professor Andres C. Acoba* and *Mrs. Pastora P. Acoba* who preceded him in death.

He was a faithful servant of God and was tirelessly devoted to his family, friends, fellowmen and country.

He is survived by his wife, **Marie Lou**, and his children, **Maria Theresa**, **Raymond Edwin** and **Lorelie Frances** and sister, **Dr. Resora Acoba** and her children, **Grace**, **Joy**, and **Joanne Faith**; father-in-law, **Colonel Auxencio Peñaranda**; and all his relatives.

His remains lie in state at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Jersey St., Project 8, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, April 5, 2003 at La Loma Cemetery after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Jersey St., Project 8, Quezon City.

In Loving Memory

of the

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

PAZ VALISNO SIOJO

April 20, 1907 - April 5, 2002

Please join her family in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

The following Masses will be celebrated:

Pink Sisters Adoration Convent *Baguio City*	**6:00 AM**
Baguio Cathedral *Baguio City*	**6:00 AM**
Don Bosco Parish *Baguio City*	**6:00 AM**
St. Joseph Parish *Trinidad, Benguet*	**6:00 AM**
San Miguel Catholic Church *San Miguel, Bulacan*	**6:00 AM**
St. John Parish *San Rafael, Bulacan*	**6:30 AM**
St. Agustin Parish *Baliuag, Bulacan*	**6:30 AM**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish *Project 8, Quezon City*	**6:30 AM** **6:30 PM**
Corpus Cristi Roman Catholic Church *Vancouver, Canada*	**8:00 AM**
Christ the King Parish *Greenmeadows, Quezon City*	**6:00 PM**
Santuario de San Jose *Greenhills, San Juan*	**6:15 PM**

ATTY. EDWIN P. ACOBA

Director of the Agricultural Training Institute
Department of Agriculture

Peacefully joined our Lord on April 1, 2003.

His remains lie in state at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Toro Hills, Project 8, Quezon City.

Officials and employees of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Agricultural Training Institute request to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be on Saturday morning, April 5, 2003 at La Loma Cemetery, Quezon City.

LILIA M. ROQUE

Peacefully joined her Creator
on April 1, 2003 at the age of 68.

Her bereaved husband **NES ROQUE**; children **JOY, DON, JUVY & ARNIE**; sons-/daughters-in-law **FIACRE, BELLE, DENNIS & PING**; grandchildren **NELL, PAULINE, CARMELA & FRANCIS** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the Merville Park Parish Church, Parañaque.

Interment will be at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque on Saturday, April 5, 2003 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Merville Park Parish Church.

Our Dearly Beloved

Engr. Avelino A. Santamaria Sr.

Former PHHC Director (National Housing Authority)
CAA Airport Manager -Baguio Loakan Airport,
(Air Transportation Office)

Peacefully joined his Creator on 31 March 2003
at the age of 89

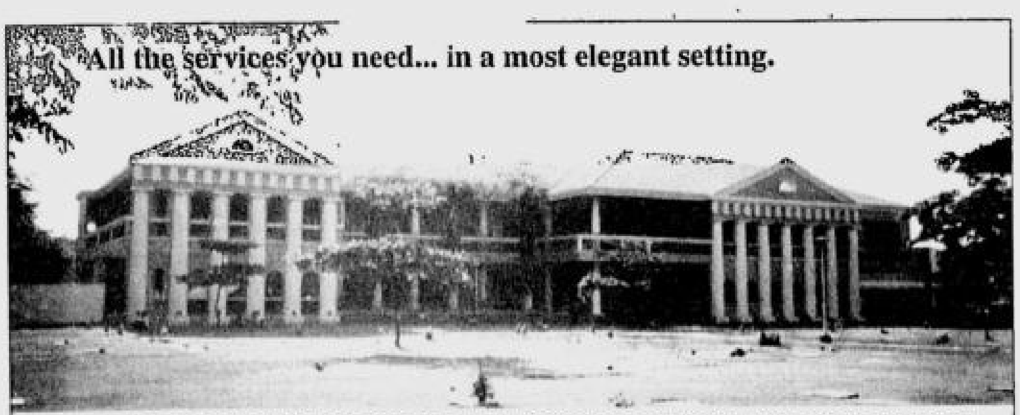
His beloved wife, Mercedes (+), children, in-laws, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul

His remains lie in state at the family residence at 2501-K Jose Abad Santos Ave., Tondo, Manila. Interment will be on Sunday, 6 April 2003 at the Manila North Cemetery at 1:00PM

We design **OBITUARIES** for free.

"The Lord
is my strength
and my shield
In whom my
heart trusted
and found help.
So my heart
rejoices; with my
song I praise
my God..."
Psalm 28:7

All the services you need... in a most elegant setting.



GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK AND CHAPELS

(Specialists in US technique of soft, "natural texture" body preservation)

Kalsadang Bago, Pateros, MM, Philippines • Tel. Nos. 642-5234 to 35 ; 642-6181 to 82 ; Fax No. 642-8869

"Put all your cares under our care..."

"... absent with the body to be present with the Lord."

2 Corinthians 5:8

CARMEN SIANG KO-TAN

Peacefully joined her Creator on March 30, 2003
at the age of 75.

In loving memories of her in-laws, nephews, nieces, grand nephews, grand nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, Inc., 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, April 5, 2003 at the Chinese Cemetery at 9:00 a.m.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification document (I.D.)

PABLO CANDA TOLOSA

Peacefully joined his Creator
on April 2, 2003 at the age of 75.

His loving wife **Liling Ona**; children **Jake & Mariles**, and **Marie & Jim McDonnell**; grandchildren **Vincent, Erika, Pablito, Angelo & Erin**, request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Christ the King Church, Greenmeadows, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, April 5, 2003 at the Himlayang Pilipino.

Message of Thanks

His wife **Tessie**;
children **Jean Louis**,
Marie Louise, and **Nicole Louise**;
parents-in-law **Henry** and **Felicidad Sy**;
sister and brothers **Bernadette, Johnny, Francisco,**
Vicente, Martin, and their spouses;
sister and brothers-in-law **Elizabeth, Henry Jr.,**
Hans, Herbert, Harley and their spouses;
nephews and nieces; relatives
and friends of the late

AMBASSADOR LOUIS S. COSON

who joined his Creator
on March 27, 2003

wish to convey their heartfelt gratitude
to all those who paid their last respects,
offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers,
messages of sympathy and Novena Masses,
donated to his favorite charity,
and who in various generous ways
gave comfort to the family.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tels (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128; (0917) 434-9976
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu; Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City; Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City; Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City; Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City; Tel 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila; Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City; Tels 646-1725, 646-1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City; Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas; Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City. Tels 890-3556; 899-8191
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011, Tels (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite. Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila, Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Third Level, Unishoppe Complex
Quezon Ave., Angono, Rizal
Tels 651-1711, 651-0737
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City. Tels. 825-1298; 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur, Tel. 722-2730, Cell (0917) 5680136; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila, Tels 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795; 732-2827
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City
Tels. 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque. Tels. 820-1592; 825-9947; 825-8635
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City Tel (074) 443-3337; (074) 442-3117
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite. Tels (046) 471-3380, (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City. Tels 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City
Tels 941-3196 to 98, 941-3676, Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal, Tels 645-1855, 682-0209; 682-0210
MARCELO FUNERAL HOMES
Tels 283-1613 273-8922
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City. Tels. (075) 515-5980, 522-8783, (0917) 520-5001
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City; Tels 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
OUR LADY OF PEACE MEMORIAL PARK
CHAPEL & SERVICES, INC.
No. 6 Cangma St., Antipolo City 1870
Tel. No. 697-0782; 697-0026; 650-7428; Fax: 697-2764
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
214 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila, Tel Nos 254-0867, 254-0839
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City; Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 [illegible] City Tels. 831-1204
Sucat Branch [illegible] Parañaque City
[illegible] 712 1210
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City, Tel. [illegible] Fax No 843-0223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City. Telefax 724-4130, 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City. Tels 852-8228; 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
10-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila. Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave. Quezon City. Tels 372-5084, 410-0286/87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City Tels. 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801; 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1611 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila. Tels. 522-8846, 522 9438; 400-5304

Our Beloved

CARMEN LORETO "CHIT" Z. AQUINO

Peacefully joined her Creator
on April 1, 2003 at the age of 63.

Her children **Arnel, Arlene, Bambi, Princess & Carlitos**; in-laws, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters, nephews & nieces, relatives & friends request to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Funeraria Paz, Imperial Room, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on April 6, 2003 at La Loma Cemetery after the 8 a.m. Mass.

"For time will never dim the love we share."
You Promised Me, I Promised You
Corazon Hinlo Vivo, October 24, 1992

In Loving Memory

On the Seventh Death Anniversary of

Hon. Martiniano P. Vivo

Philippine Legion of Honor Awardee
Former Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration
Former Partner, Tañada, Vivo & Tan Law Offices
Member, Order of the Knights of Rizal
Member, Upsilon Sigma Phi
Member, College Editors' Guild

For his memory, Holy Masses will be offered today, Friday, April 4, 2003 at the following Churches:

St. Raphael Archangel Parish, Calaca, Batangas	5:30 AM
St. Joseph Convent of Perpetual Adoration (Pink Sisters)	6:00 AM
Christ the King Seminary, E. Rodriguez, Quezon City	6:00 PM
Mount Carmel Shrine, Doña Juana Rodriguez Ave., Q.C.	6:00 PM
Immaculate Conception Parish, Lantana, Q.C.	6:00 PM
Our Lady of Loreto Parish, Bustillos, Sampaloc, Manila	6:00 PM
Sacred Heart Parish, Kamuning, Quezon City	6:00 PM

His loving wife **Corazon**; daughter **Ining** and husband **Chito Guevara**; grandchildren **Martin, Bernard, Christine** and **Angeline**; and relatives request the pious readers, especially those whose lives he had touched, to pray for the eternal rest of his soul.

"There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that Day." 2 Timothy 4:8

"You'll be forever in our hearts, dad"

DALMACIO "Aping" F. CHE

Joined his Creator on April 3, 2003 at the age of 78.

His children **Connie & Joven**, and **Naty & Teddy**; grandchildren **Michael, Angelo, Ian, Paolo** and **Apple**; relatives **Maria Leong, Johnny & Marlyn, Susan & Terry, Soleta & Roy, Tony** and **Jocelyn, Ligaya, Fely, Helen**; and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Chapel 15, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on April 6, 2003 at Paraiso Memorial Park, San Mateo, Rizal.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

ENGR. LUIS R. SALDANA

who peacefully passed into Eternal Life
on February 24, 2003

express our supreme gratitude to our relatives and friends

for offering Holy Masses
for sending flowers and messages of sympathy
for participating in the Evening Masses and Necrological services
for assisting in the funeral arrangements
for your prayers, concern and sincere support
for keeping vigil and visiting us at Sta. Maria Della Strada and Samal, Bataan
for your presence, love and friendship that gave us comfort and solace in this sorrowful point in out lives, and
for keeping him in your prayers always.

As a send-off on the 40th Day since his passing, on April 5, 2003, Holy Masses are offered at the following Churches:

St. Catherine of Siena, Samal, Bataan	4:30 p.m.
St. Joseph, Aurora Blvd., Quirino 3, QC	7:00 p.m.
Sto. Domingo, Quezon Ave., QC	6:00 p.m.
Sto. Domingo (Gregorian Mass) April 20-May 19, 2003	6:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Retiro, QC	6:00 p.m.
Sta. Maria Della Strada, Katipunan Rd., QC	6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Cathedral, Balanga, Bataan	6:00 p.m.
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Orani, Bataan	5:30 p.m.
National Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Makati City	6:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart, Sct. Ybardolaza, Kamuning	6:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Aguinaldo Highway, Tagaytay City	5:30 p.m.
Sto. Niño Basilica, Cebu City	6:00 a.m.
San Lorenzo Ruiz, Binondo, Manila	6:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Colo, Dinalupihan, Bataan	6:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart, Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino, Calif., USA	5:00 p.m.

A Special Holy Mass for his 40th Day is on April 5, 2003
at the Chapel and Community Center
of Loyola Grand Villas at 7 p.m.

LEONILA T. GLINDRO

Died peacefully on March 30, 2003 at the age of 86.

Her loving children **Maning & Fely Glindro, Cely & Fred Merca, Fel & Fred Ablog, Nol & Franklin Alipar, Bay & Claro Tualla, Felicing & Dante Manalo, Maricor & Rey Caturroja, Adora & Efren Jurin, Virgie & Joey Clemente**; grandchildren & great-grandchildren, brother and sisters-in-law, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz (Chapel D), G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

She will be laid to rest at Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City on Sunday, April 6, 2003 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross.

"My soul, be at rest in God alone from whom comes my hope."
Psalm 62:6.

Godspeed, Glenn!

"To me, to live is Christ,
and to die is gain.
-Philippians 1:21

Ace Saatchi & Saatchi
announces with deep sorrow the demise of

Glenn C. Banguis

Vice President for Media

on March 31, 2003 at the age of 52.

We condole with his loving wife Nelly, his children Joseph, Grace Ann, Mary Beth, Mary Rose and Gleneli; parents Tom Sr. and Mommy Pelang, brother Tom and sister Grace.

His body lies in state at the Faith Chapel of Don Bosco, Makati City. Interment will be at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque on Saturday, April 5 after the 9:00 a.m. mass at Don Bosco Church.

CLASSIFIEDS

BELGIAN MALINOIS PUPS

(Future Sniffing Dogs)

- 3 and 1/2 months old
- Heavy boned
- 2 shots/dewormed
- 5 males

16 thousand php each
Look for: Boy Lee
9413242 · 0918-3543817

Dog Food Warehouse Sale

This is a one time offer. We have **50** bags of Lamb & Rice Select that we would like to move out of our warehouse. Our reason is simply because they are set to expire on July 2003. So rather than to let them go to waste, we are selling them below our cost.

Lamb & Rice Select
Suggested Retail Price: ~~P2365.00~~
Warehouse Sale Price: **P1675.00**

Hurry!! First come first serve only.

You will never find another offer like this with such high quality dog food. The Pet Pantry dog foods are All Natural, No by-products, No Chemical Preservatives, and enhanced with all natural supplements that cannot be found in any other dog food brands. Simply said, your dog can reach their optimal health condition with **The Pet Pantry.**

CALL NOW: **9281991/ 9274181**

First 10 customers receive additional P50.- off per bag

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Pag-IBIG Fund invites all interested Consulting Firms to apply for eligibility and to participate in the bidding for Project Management Services for the Cagayan de Oro Regional Office Building and Cagayan De Oro Office Warehouse located at J.R. Borja St., Cagayan De Oro City and Carinugan, Balulang, Cagayan De Oro City respectively.

The Project Management Services required has an expected contract duration of 44 Weeks. The services will be funded by Pag-IBIG Fund in the amount of **P 3,689,505.75.**

Prospective bidders will be checked on their eligibility requirements, submitted bids will be examined, evaluated and post-qualification of bidders will be conducted.

Eligibility requirements and bidding forms will be made available for issuance to prospective applicants/bidders starting **March 26, 2003** by the BAC-CS Secretariat located at Pag-IBIG Fund Corporate Headquarters, Room 702, 7th Floor, Atrium of Makati Condominium, Makati Avenue, Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) and presentation of the corresponding Official Receipt as proof of payment. For more information on the availability of the eligibility requirements and bidding forms, you may visit and/or contact the HDMF BAC-CS Secretariat at telephone number 8114401 local 302 and/or access our website at http://www.pag-ibig-fund.com.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **April 8, 2003**, 2:00 p.m. at the Pag-IBIG Fund Corporate Headquarters, Room 602, 6th Floor, Atrium of Makati Condominium, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

Deadline for the submission of accomplished eligibility forms and bidding documents shall be on **April 23, 2003**, 2:00 p.m. at the Pag-IBIG Fund Corporate Headquarters, Room 602, 6th Floor, Atrium of Makati Condominium, Makati Avenue, Makati City. All documents must be addressed to the undersigned.

Pag-IBIG Fund reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or any part thereof, waive any defect or informality contained therein and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Fund.

(Sgd.) **MS. TESSIE M. GONZALES**
Senior Vice President - Operations Group
Chairperson
Bids & Awards Committee-Consulting Services

(PDI--March 26 & April 4, 2003)

Holistic Circle Offers TAI CHI Lessons

STARTING on April 2003, a year-round Holistic Health Education series will be offered by Holistic Circle in collaboration with SM Megamall and other stakeholders. Among the initial classes to be offered which are scheduled prior to the opening of Megamall in the morning are the following: Tai Chi Chuan (24, 48 and 108 forms), Qi Gong (Shawn Kung and other forms), Meditation like Yoga and other forms, Stress management, Healthy diet and Nutrition, Detoxification, Orientation on Acupressure and Acupuncture, Smoking Cessation program, Health Maintenance and other requested topics.

Tai Chi Classes – Free domo and trial lessons will be offered for all interested learners on April 5, 17 and 19, 2003 (Saturdays) from 6:30 to 7:30 AM. Regular lessons will start every Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and from April 22, 24 and April 26, 2003 at same time. Venue will be at the parking area fronting SM Megamall building B (EDSA side).

For schedules reservation, please contact the Holistic Circle secretariat at the 5th Floor, SM Megamall, Building A, Mandaluyong City or you may call 631-4868, telefax 634-7271 or email: holisticcircle@yahoo.com.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The **NATIONAL GRID INTERNATIONAL LTD., (NGIL)** is closing its operations in the Philippines effective February 28, 2003 as per Secretary's Certificate annexed hereunder.

Please address your communications to: The Resident Agent, P.O. Box 12618, Ortigas Center Post Office, Pasig City 1605.

Date: 24th January 2003

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

I, David C Forward, Company Secretary, of National Grid International Limited ("NGIL"); of legal age and with representative address in the Philippines at 3203-C Tektite East Tower, Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City, Metro Manila (the "Representative Office"); being duly authorised on behalf of NGIL; hereby depose and state that:

1. NGIL is a corporation organized under and by virtue of the laws of England and Wales, with registered office address at 1-3 Strand, London, WC2N 5EH, England.
2. NGIL intends to close its Representative Office, and to cease to conduct business in the Philippines, on or after 28 February 2003 ("the closure").
3. The Company's Representative in the Philippines, Mr. David Swanson, is hereby authorised to formally notify the closure date; and to sign, execute and/or deliver any and all documents in connection with the said closure.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of the Company, this 24th day of January 2003.

David C Forward, Secretary

(PDI--Mar. 21, 28 & Apr. 4, 2003)

POEA
24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144 / 722-1155

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT IV
DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Tala, Caloocan City

April 2, 2003

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital invites responsible and duly accredited suppliers from DOH/RHO 4 to pre-qualify and bid for the supply of the following items:

- A. GROCERY PRODUCTS
- B. POULTRY AND EGGS
- C. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
- D. FISH AND OTHER SEA FOODS
- E. BAKERY PRODUCTS
- F. LABORATORY EQUIPMENTS
  - a. 1 unit Centrifuge
  - b. 1 unit Analyzer

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

Issuance of Bid Documents:	April 14 to 25, 2003 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Pre-Bid Conference:	
Items A, B, C, D, and E	April 14, 2003 - 1:30 p.m.
Item F	April 14, 2003 - 2:00 p.m.
Submission and Opening of Bids:	
Items A, B, C, D, and E	April 28, 2003 - 1:30 p.m.
Item F	April 29, 2003 - 1:30 p.m.

Prospective bidders may secure bid proposal forms from the BAC Secretary, Property and Supply Section, Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of THREE HUNDRED PESOS (P300.00).

All activities shall be held at the Training Room, Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital, Tala, Caloocan City, unless announced otherwise.

Each bid must be accompanied by a bidder's bond in the form of a certified check, manager's check, or GSIS Bond in an amount equivalent to a percentage of the approved budget for the contract to be bid.

The Approved Budget Cost is stated on the bid tender documents.

For further inquiries, interested bidders may contact the BAC Secretary or call telephone no. 962-9884.

DR. JNRMH reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to notice of award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidders of the grounds for the hospital's action.

(Sgd.) **CECILIA A. GARGUENA, M.D.**
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Apr. 4 & 5, 2003)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 90, QUEZON CITY

IN THE MATTER OF
THE APPLICATION FOR
THE REHABILITATION OF –

SP. PROC. NO. Q-03-041

MEGA MOTION WORK, INC. and
MEGA MOTION AUTO SALES
CORPORATION,
Petitioners.
x---x

STAY ORDER

Before this Court is a verified amended petition/application for rehabilitation filed by the above-named petitioners.

Briefly, the petitioners contend that on the basis of their past record and projected market conditions for the next ten (10) years, they have a good chance of being rehabilitated. Their rehabilitation plan calls for the immediate reduction of the principal debt from P174,879,365.00 to P83,612,365.00 via dacion en pago, the restructuring of the P83,612,365.00 through reduction of interest rates and the payment of interest and principal from year 4 to year 10 of the proposed 10-year rehabilitation period the "reorganization and replanning and repositioning of Mega Motion," among other things. Consequently, they pray for the immediate appointment of a rehabilitation receiver and the issuance of a Stay Order pending proceedings before this Court.

A careful examination of the amended petition shows that conforms substantially with Section 2, Rule 4 of the Interim Rules of Procedure on Corporate Rehabilitation (*see also* Supreme Court Resolution en banc in A.M. No. 00-8-10-SC). This Court therefore finds the amended petition to be sufficient in form and substance.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, this Court issues a Stay Order, in accordance with Section 6, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules, as follows:

1) Appointing Mr. Jose G. Araullo, a certified public accountant by profession, as rehabilitation receiver who shall be considered as an officer of the court and who shall have the powers, duties and functions as provided in Section 14, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules. The rehabilitation receiver must post a bond of PHP1,000,000.00 before entering upon his powers, duties and functions and must take an oath, as provided under Section 15, Rule 4 of the aforecited Interim Rules. The petitioners are directed to serve immediately a copy of this Stay Order upon the rehabilitation receiver, Mr. Jose G. Araullo who shall manifest his acceptance or non-acceptance of his appointment not later than (10) days from receipt hereof;
2) Staying enforcement of all claims, whether for money or otherwise and whether such enforcement is by court action or otherwise, against the petitioners and its/their guarantors and sureties not solidarily liable with the petitioners including the staying of proceedings of collection cases filed against petitioners, and the staying of the enforcement/implementation of application/s for extra judicial foreclosure sales and actual foreclosure sale/s if any, against the real and personal properties of petitioner's;
3) Prohibiting the petitioners from selling, encumbering, transferring, or disposing in any matter any of its/their properties except in the ordinary course of business;
4) Prohibiting the petitioners from making any payment of its/their liabilities outstanding as at the date of the filing of the petition;
5) Prohibiting the suppliers of the petitioner/s from withholding supply of goods and services in the ordinary course of business for as long as the petitioners make payments for the services and goods supplied after the issuance of this Stay Order;
6) Directing the petitioner/s to pay in full all administrative expenses incurred after the issuance of this Stay Order.

The initial hearing on the amended petition is set on April 28, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. at the session room Branch 90 of this Court located at the Ground Floor of the Hall of Justice Building, Quezon City Hall complex, Quezon City. All creditors and all interested parties including the Securities and Exchange Commission are directed to file with this Court and serve upon the petitioners a verified comment on or opposition to the amended petition, with supporting affidavits and documents, not later than ten (10) days before the date of the initial hearing as set forth above, and they are put on notice that their failure to do so will bar them from participating in the proceedings before this Court. All creditors and all interested parties are further directed to secure from this Court copies of the amended petition and its annexes within such time as to enable them to file their verified comment on or opposition to the amended petition and to prepare them for the initial hearing of the petition, and to attain this purpose, petitioners are ordered to file with this Court initially fifteen (15) additional copies of the amended petition and its annexes within ten (10) days from receipt hereof.

The petitioners are furthermore directed by this Court to publish a copy of this Order in The Philippine Daily Inquirer, and one other newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines chosen by raffle if it is a newspaper other than the herein-named newspaper, once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks, with the last publication effected at least three (3) weeks prior to the date of initial hearing as set forth above, for wider dissemination to all interested persons, at the expense of the petitioners.

The Process Server of this Court is ordered to serve immediately copies of this Stay Order upon: 1) Ignacio N. Solim (the President and the duly authorized representative/official of the petitioners), No. 66 Celery Drive, Valle Verde 5, Pasig City; 2) Atty. Angelito W. Chua (the counsel for the petitioners), Block 14, Lot 1, G. Diaz Street, BF Resort Village, Talon 2, 1740 Las Piñas City, Metro Manila; 3) Mr. Jose G. Araullo, Punongbayan and Araullo, 20th Floor, Tower I, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City; 4) the Honorable Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, EDSA, (Epifanio De Los Santos Avenue), Mandaluyong, Metro Manila.

SO ORDERED.
Quezon City, March 25, 2003.

(Sgd.) REYNALDO B. DAWAY
Presiding Judge

(PDI - March 28 & April 4, 2003)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

Date: March 26, 2003
Reference No.:

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. Contract: Sp00.MKTL.L1-0311 Erection and Installation of Masalm - Klamba 69 kV Single Circuit Woodpole Transmission Line Project.
2. The contract to be performed by the successful bidder shall consist of furnishing all construction plant, labor, materials, supplies, tools and equipment (except for materials and equipment specified to be furnished by TRANSCO), constructing complete the 69 kV Woodpole Transmission Line Project.
3. The Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid are as follows from Internal Cash Generation.

Schedule I (Pole No. MK-1 to Pole No. MK-147)	- P 7,850,729.00
Schedule II (Pole No. MK-148 to Pole No. MK-351)	- P 7,733,711.00

4. Application for Eligibility is open to Filipino contractors who have the legal, technical and financial requisites of the contract to be bid/project with the following License and Registration Particulars as specified in the Eligibility Documents.
   License Particular : Category B - Specialty in Electrical Works
   Registration Particular : Medium A - Electrical Works
5. Application for Eligibility shall be evaluated using "PASS/FAIL" criteria and only Eligible Bidders shall be invited by Transco in the bidding. All bids equal to or lower than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be evaluated based on the responsiveness of the contractor's offer to the contract under bidding subject to Postqualification before an award is made. Bid Prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid shall be rejected and returned outright.
6. Eligibility Documents and Forms will be available for issuance on March 31, 2003 at the Bids and Contracts Management Department, Second Floor, Building No. 2, NPC OBC, National Transmission Corporation, Agham Road corner Quezon Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1104, Telefax No.: 921-2308 upon presentation of Letter of Intent, Contractor's License and a payment of non-refundable fee of P800.00 per copy.
7. Deadline for submission of duly accomplished Application for Eligibility, Forms, documents and statements shall be on or before April 29, 2003 and shall be submitted at the registration office and address mentioned above. If the date is a non-working day or declared non-working day, the deadline for submission shall be moved to the next working day immediately following said date. Late submission and/or incomplete application shall not be accepted.
8. Contractor, not yet included in the Transco's List of Registered Contractors, who wishes to participate in the public bidding, in order to facilitate eligibility check/ screening, are requested to register with the registration office mentioned above by submitting the following basic requirements which should be maintained current and updated at least once a year. A Certificate of Registration will be issued to contractors upon approval.
   - Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) business name registration or Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) registration certificate, as appropriate;
   - Mayor's permit and/or municipal license for the current year;
   - Taxpayer's Identification Number;
   - Notarized statement of the prospective bidder that it is not "blacklisted" or barred from bidding by any government agency, office or corporation, including, in the case of procurement of civil works, non-inclusion in the "blacklist" or contractors issued by the CIAP;
   - Audited financial statements, stamped "received" by the BIR or its duly accredited and authorized institutions, for the immediately preceding calendar year, showing, among others, the prospective bidder's total and current assets and liabilities inclusive of Income Tax Return and Receipt;
   - Contractor's License.
9. TRANSCO reserves the right to reject any Application for Eligibility or all bids or request for registration without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
10. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **WINIFREDO SM. PANGILINAN**
Chairman
Bids Award Committee

(PDI - Apr. 2, 4 & 7, 2003)

Republika ng Pilipinas
PANGASIWAAN NG TUBIG AT ALKANTARILYA SA METRO MANILA
Metropolitan Waterworks
and Sewerage System
CORPORATE OFFICE
Katipunan Road, Balara,
Quezon City 1105, Philippines

REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

The MWSS invites eligible private proponents to indicate their interest to participate in the public bidding for the proposed **MWSS Treated Bulk Water Supply Project** to be implemented through an output-based specifications approach under an appropriate contractual arrangement pursuant to the Amended Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Law (Republic Act No. 7718). Under the said approach, the private proponent will be required to deliver a minimum of 400 MLD treated water conforming to Philippine standards for drinking water, to one or more receiving points in the southern part of Metro Manila, which shall be specified at a later date in the output specifications. The private proponent will also be required to develop its own raw water source.

Interested parties may submit information indicating their qualifications to undertake the proposed Project (brochures, description of similar projects undertaken, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

Interested parties may obtain a Project Profile, and send expressions of interest at the address below:

Office of the Deputy Administrator
G/F Engineering Bldg., MWSS Complex
489 Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
1105 Philippines

(Sgd.) **ORLANDO C. HONDRADE**
Administrator

(PDI - Apr. 4 & 11, 2003)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOB MARKET ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
Collection District II – B

MANILA INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER PORT

NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT AND SALE

WHEREAS, the herein described items/goods were separately imported on various dates at the Manila International Container Port, which up to the present no Customs Import Entry have been filed thereon, respectively, or if such Entry has been filed, no claim/adjudication was made thereto by their respective consignee/importer, or such rightful claimant within the period fixed by Law, to wit;

Cosignee	Description	Container No.
VILMA CALAUAG / KINTETSU WORLD EXP.	AUTOMOBILE 2001 LANDROVER	HDMU-2292222
LKS CONSTRUCTION AND DEV'T. CORP.	POLISHED / UNPOLISHED TILES	TRLU-2112671 EMCU-3073646
ROVER ENTERPRISES	USED REPLACEMENT PARTS	GSTU-7745109
STONCOR PHILS.	ZINC DUST	NOSU-2301920
COWIL ENTERPRISES	SECOND HAND CARVAN	NOSU-4340973
GEORGE QUILON	MILITARY POV	TRLU-3437434
VIRGINIA VIRAY	PERSONAL EFFECTS	TTNU-9511170
AN COMPANY INC.	USED JAPANESE REPLACEMENT	CNCU-6960480
MAC-NELS SHIPPING	HOUSEHOLD GOODS & PERSONAL EFFECTS	HDMU-2400013
U-OCEAN INC.	USED OFFICE EQUIPMENT	HDMU-2935210
PERPETUAL HEALTH	OFFICE FURNITURE AND SUPPLIES	HDMU-4310304
SPT. DELIVERY SERVICES	HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & PERSONAL EFFECTS	HDMU-6170310
SOLANDA ENTERPRISES	AGRICULTURAL PUMPS	KKFU-1171095
JIDECO MFG. PHILS.	PARTS FOR MOTOR ASSEMBLY	KKTU-7139346
INTERMARINE EXPRESS	ELETRON DETERGENT, INHIBITION MEDICAMENT	KKTU-7183246
TOKAI PRECISION PHILS.	PARTS FOR COPY MACHINE	KKTU-7202900
F. VALDEZ TRADING	SPARE PARTS	KLFU-1255034
SCA HYGIENE PRODUCTS	CHEMI-THERMOMECHANICAL	KLFU-1302218
ATMAK CORP.	VARIOUS PLASTIC MATERIALS	KLFU-1827459
PRECY KIM MOTORS	AUTOMOBILE GRAND CHEROKEE	CLHU-2095959
ECRA TRADING CO.	USED VEHICLE TRUCK CANTOR	GLDU-0578880
TARLAC TRUCK TRADER	USED VARIOUS EQUIPMENT & PARTS	WFHU-5017659
PTC AGENCY & TRANSPORT	ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT	POCU-6405034
S T AZUR TRADING INC.	SARSI COLA REGULAR	GATU-03055170
S T AZUR TRADING INC.	GOLDEN GOOSE	NYKU-2476084
HENKEL PHILS.	LANETTE 18 DEO NF	TRIU-1411014
R.O. ALFARO BROKERAGE	PERSONAL EFFECTS	TRLU-2578715
INT'L. CONSOLIDATORS	PERSONAL EFFECTS	FSCU-3076375
INTRASTATE CARGO	STC 110 CARTONS	OOLU-3396063
FAITH ACADEMY	FIRE ALARMS	OOLU-5510278
EVERAND IMPORT/EXPORT	USED AS IS CONDITION TRUCK	OOLU-5559344
EVERAND IMPORT/EXPORT	USED AS IS CONDITION TRUCK	OOLU-5697810
YBA ENTERPRISE	1 UNIT	OOLU-5783328
CEL CONSOLIDATORS	MERCEDES BENZ S280	GLDU-0289466
UNITED BROS. INTEGRATED	USED HOUSEHOLD GOODS, USED OFFICE	TEXU-5019348
TRANSMODAL INT'L.	TELEPHONE SE	GLDU-2165150
A TRINIDAD TRADING	LADY SANDALS, ETC.	GSTU-9744159
ROSITA DAMIAN	USED & OLD HOUSEHOLD & P.E.	KKTU-7127345
HEXA TRADING	ONE CONTAINER	MLCU-2889312
NANCY ROXAS / ARIEL ROXAS	HOUSEHOLD GOODS	TPCU-8902082
QUICKFLO FORWARDERS	HOUSEHOLD GOODS & PERSONAL EFFECTS	TPCU-4922331
MARKANI CRAFTS	78 PKGS. IN 1 X 40' CONTAINER	TEXU-7311554
MODESTO R. SANCHEZ ENT.	PERSONAL EFFECTS	TRLU-4609137
UNICAS INT'L. PHILS. CORP.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	EMCU-2380620
PRESENTACION H. GARNACE	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	FSCU-6071206
ROSALIE PRIVADO AND/OR ANSELMO CASTILLO	STC: 11 B O	LTIU-2328929
PURING DELA TORRE & CO.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	TGHU-7395147
HERMINIGILDO RUBIANES & CO.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	TGHU-7523103
MINGLEY TRADERS & IMPORTS CO., LTD.	SOYBEAN MEAL	UGMU-8430008
REV. FATHER THOMAS & TERANIA JR.	PERSONAL EFFECTS & HOUSEHOLD GOODS	UGMU-8713420
BONGAVILLE MARKETING	WRAPPING PAPER, ETC.	NSCU-6200297
JHAE & SANG YUN INT'L.	USED AUTOMOBILE SPARE PARTS	TRLU-5517185
FAMOUS PACIFIC FWDG.	FURNITURE, ETC.	WHLU-4015308
FERNANDEZ ANGELINA	USED HOUSEHOLD GOODS & P.E.	WHLU-4040466
BALDWIN MOTOR ENT.	USED CAR	WHLU-4121043
CHENG SUL PVC INC.	USED CAR	WHLU-4932842
BELMONTE TRADING	USED AUTO PARTS, TRACTOR & ELECTRIC GOODS	WHLU-5953583
ECU-LINE PHILS. INC.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	YTLU-2102902
ECU-LINE PHILS. INC.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	YTLU-2113580
ECU-LINE PHILS. INC.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	YTLU-2200977
ECU-LINE PHILS. INC.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	YTLU-2293835
ECU-LINE PHILS. INC.	SHIPPERS LOAD AND COUNT	YTLU-2971444
MAYBANK PHILS.	WHITE NEGORESS PORCELAIN TILES	EMCU-3073646
PHIL. INT'L. TRADING CO.	2812 BAGS	TTNU-3685093
RAUL S. CRUZ	USED GRAND CHEROKEE JEEP (LAREDO)	HJCU-8847735
ECRA TRADING CO.	USED CAR/PARTS	GESU-4194470
SEA LINKAGE INT'L.	USED 1989 CORVETTE	TRIU-1656212
AUTOMALL PHIL., MOTORS CORP.	2 UNITS USED JEEP	EMCU-1106782
PHILKORE INTERVENTURES CORP.	USED PREGIO	GATU-8523305

WHEREAS, the failure of the consignee/importer or such rightful claimant to claim/adjudicate his/her importation shall be deemed to be a renunciation of his/her property rights in favor of the government, pursuant to Section 1801 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended by Republic Act 7651, and be auctioned after ten (10) days from the date of posting/ advertisement.

SO ORDERED.

Manila International Container Port, Manila, Philippines, this 3rd day of April 2003.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. FELIPE A. BARTOLOME**
District Collector of Customs

(PDI - April 4, 2003)

"BE A SOLUTION, NOT A PROBLEM"

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Cebu Regional Office

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

[Sale through Market Determined Pricing - SMDP]

The NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA), Region VII invites interested NFA licensed grains businessman to submit a sealed offer for the public auction of 27,000 bags rice, more or less, with Peacock, Goldfish and Well-Milled Rice brands. This stock, stored at NFA Centennial Warehouse, Reclamation Area, Cebu City, is offered for sale on a "per-lot, as-is where-is, no selection" basis with an indicative price set at Ps 890.00/bag. Minimum quantity per lot is 200 bags.

All interested offerors shall ensure that their capitalization meets their total bid amount. Adjustment is required for those whose capitalization falls below their total bid amount. They are required to post a Bond equivalent to 10% of the total bid amount in the form of either Cash or Manager's/Cashier's Check, payable to NFA.

They shall submit the following documents to the Regional Bids and Awards Committee (RBAC):

1. Certified copy of current NFA License/Registration and approved Application for License
2. Duly notarized authorization from the owner/Chairman that the representative is presently connected with the entity as an official/employee and is authorized to represent the same in the public auction.

Auction terms and conditions and tender forms can be secured at RBAC Secretariat, NFA, Cebu Regional Office, Banilad, Cebu City after payment of a non-refundable fee of Ps 200.00 and presentation of a valid and current NFA license. The NFA encourages all interested offerors to conduct an ocular inspection of the subject rice stock prior to the pre-auction conference.

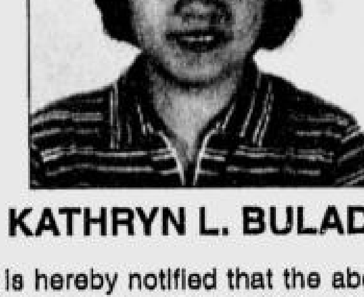
A *pre-auction conference* is set at *10:00 a.m.* on *April 8, 2003* at the Training Center, 3rd Floor, NFA, Banilad, Cebu City. *Submission and opening* of sealed offers are scheduled at *2:00 p.m.* on *April 8, 2003*. In case of unsold volume, another auction shall be conducted on April 23, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. and every Wednesday thereafter until all the subject stock shall have been completely disposed.

The Committee reserves the right to reject any or all offers, waive any informalities or defects found therein, and accept only such offers which, in its judgment, are most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA. The decision of the Committee, as confirmed by the Regional Director, is deemed final.

(Sgd.) JAVIER P. LOZADA, JR.
Regional Director

(PDI - Apr. 3, 4 & 5, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



KATHRYN L. BULADO

The public is hereby notified that the above-mentioned person, whose photo appears above and is residing at P48-018th-15th St., Villamor Air Base, Pasay City, is no longer employed with **Amon Securities Corp.** since **November 9, 2002.** Any transaction made through her will not be honored by the Company.

(PDI–March 29, April 4 & 10, 2003)

DAVAO CITY WATER DISTRICT
J.P. Laurel Ave., Davao City
Telephone No.: 221-9400; Fax: 2264885

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Davao City Water District (DCWD) hereby invites all interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following: *(for item 6, Contrators with PCAB Category Medium A & below)*

Item Package	Description	ABC/Ceiling Bid Price
1	Exploratory/Production Well Drilling Tugbok Well No. 5	Php2,603,968.00
2	Exploratory/Production Well Drilling Calinan Well No. 2	2,603,968.00
3	Exploratory/Pilot Hole Drilling Bunawan P-1	355,354.00
4	Exploratory/Pilot Hole Drilling Bunawan P-2	582,868.00
5	Exploratory/Pilot Hole Drilling Bunawan P-3	505,066.00
6	680 cu.m. Reinforced Concrete Ground Reservoir Cabantian Water System	3,069,766.00
	Total .	Php9,720,990.00

Eligibility requirements per item package are available at the BAC-B Secretariat c/o The office of the General Manager starting April 4, 2003 during its business hours. Deadline for the submission of eligibility documents/requirements will be on or before May 5, 2003.

Bid documents may be released only to applicants with a Notice of Eligibility, upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Php1,000.00 per package starting May 12, 2003.

Pre-bidding is set on June 2, 2003 at 3:00 p.m., and the Opening of Bids on June 5, 2003, 2:00 p.m. at the DCWD Board Conference Room.

DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality/informality of the bids received and to accept only such bids which are advantageous to the District.

(Sgd.) ENGR. EDWIN V. REGALADO
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee-B

(PDI–April 4 & 11, 2003)

BIR, Customs still most corrupt, survey shows

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue and Bureau of Customs—the two-biggest revenue collecting agencies of the government—are the two most corrupt agencies of the government, according to the Social Weather Station's latest survey.

In a poll conducted from October last year to February this year, 68 percent of 500 respondents from the country's top 1,500 corporations believed the BIR was corrupt, while 66 percent felt the same way about the customs bureau.

Both scores were lower than the levels recorded over the last two years.

BIR and BOC officials said they considered the results of the survey as a challenge for them to pursue more reforms, particularly after two-thirds of the respondents blamed tax collectors for the prevailing corruption, while only 27 percent blamed taxpayers.

Varying estimates placed the cost of corruption at hundreds of billions of pesos yearly.

Corruption in the ranks has been blamed for the weak revenue collection of the BIR and BOC.

SWS president Mahar Mangahas has said the business community is willing to contribute funds to fight the problem but believes dishonesty in business practices also have to be corrected.

BIR widens coverage of auditing system

By Michelle V. Remo

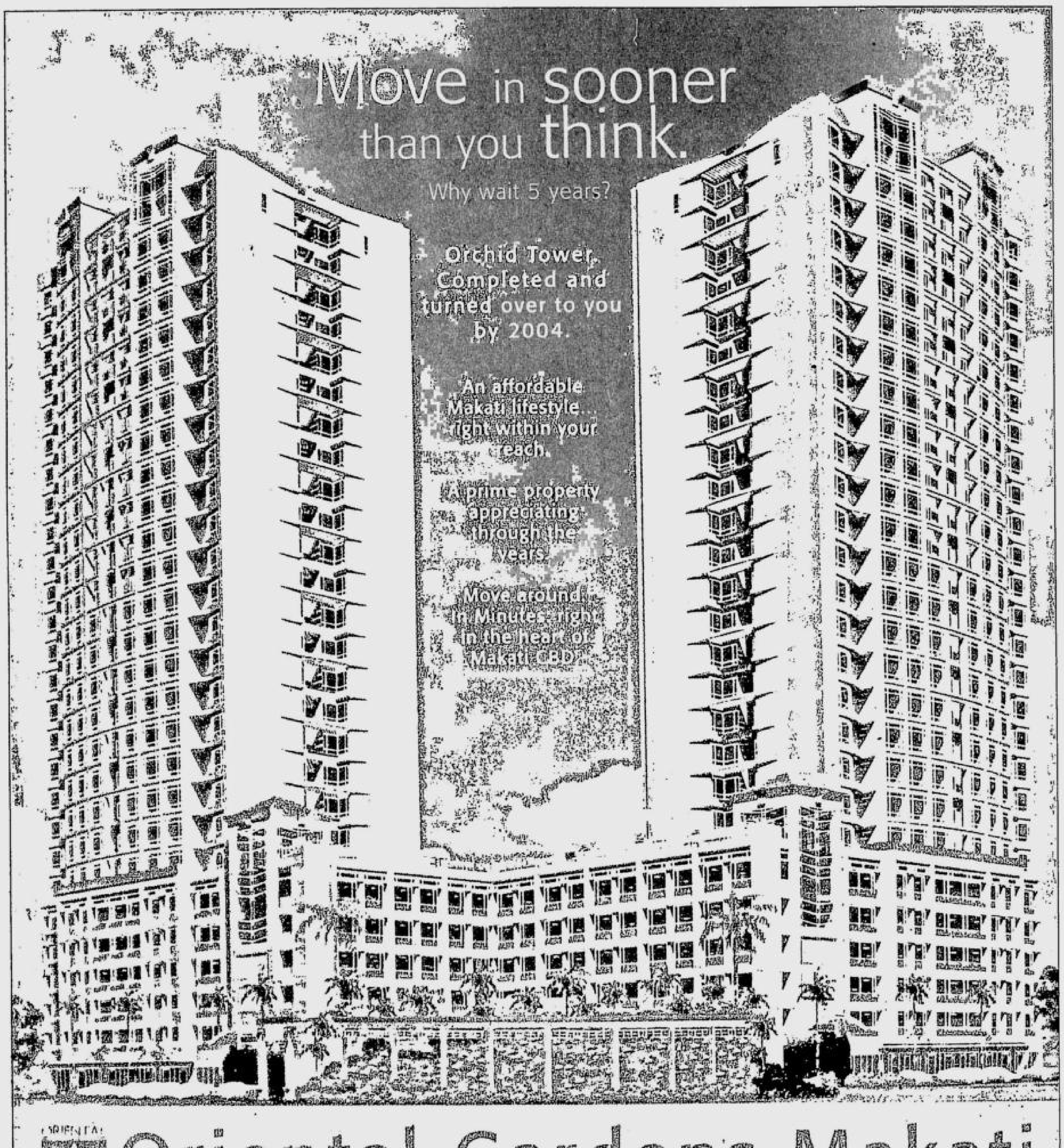
MORE delinquent taxpayers are expected to be detected, as the Bureau of Internal Revenue widens the coverage of its new auditing system, which has generated billions of additional revenue since it became operational this year.

The BIR said its "Relief" auditing system would be rolled out in about 40 more district offices in Metro Manila, Pampanga, San Pablo, Valenzuela and Cebu.

The system, which stands for "reconciliation of listings for enforcement," was piloted in selected district offices in Makati, Cebu and Valenzuela.

Relief can detect tax leaks through matching tax declarations of companies with third-party sources.

The BIR has collected some P5.14 billion in additional revenue as of March 24.

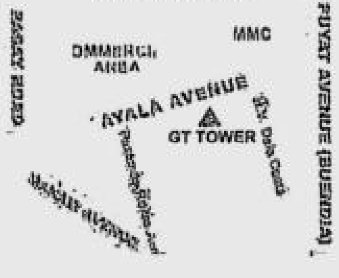

Move in sooner than you think.
Why wait 5 years?
Orchid Tower. Completed and turned over to you by 2004.
An affordable Makati lifestyle... right within your reach.
A prime property appreciating through the years.
Move around in Minutes right in the heart of Makati CBD.

Oriental Gardens Makati
The Executive Residential Condo

An honest to goodness podium garden...
Koi pond... sunbathing deck,
aerobics and gym facilities...
moongate playground...
an oasis amidst an urban jungle.

Up there, life is what you make it.

Easy payment schemes available.
Studio, 1BR, 2BR Showrooms open daily.
17F, GT Tower, Ayala Avenue corner
Dela Costa Street, Makati City
Lotus Tower. Initial offering now available until March 31, 2003 only.



Pasong Tamo St. near
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. (Buendia)

Make that Move now.

Hurry up and call...Omni-Orient Marketing Network Inc.
+63(2) 810 4693 • 810 4694 • 810 4695
www.orientalgardens.com.ph

FEDERALAND

For Announcement Purposes Only.

Philtranco to spend ₱4B to expand fleet

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PHILTRANCO Service, the country's oldest and largest bus company, is spending up to P4 billion in five years to buy new buses and ferry boats, and refurbish and expand its terminals.

In an interview yesterday, Philtranco chief executive Jose Antonio said the expansion program would allow Philtranco to take the lead role in the government's plan to build a seamless highway on the country's western seaboard that would take passengers and cargo through five major islands: Luzon, Mindoro, Panay, Negros and Mindanao.

Philtranco has been raising money since 1999 to buy 200 new buses from MAN of Germany and 12 ferry boats, build "super terminals," and boost its passenger and cargo services.

Philtranco has already acquired 100 buses since 1999, Antonio disclosed.

Antonio said Philtranco was responding to President Macapagal-Arroyo's push to modernize the land transportation business to give Filipino travelers a cheaper alternative to air transport.

He said the company would eventually offer trips to Boracay or Cebu for a third of the cost of an airline ticket.

The President recently inaugurated Philtranco's P20-million central station in Pasay City that Antonio described as "the most modern bus terminal in the country at par with other bus terminals worldwide."

The terminal offers large air-conditioned lounges, clean comfort and shower rooms, boarding and baggage handling systems similar to those found in airports.

Antonio said this year's expansion program would jack up Philtranco's passenger capacity to 3,000 a day from 1,000 and boost cargo volume to as much as 100 tons a day.

"We consider the cargo business a separate entity, with a vast potential for growth, and we are continuing to develop this sector," Antonio said.

Antonio and Philtranco chair Jose Ch. Alvarez took over majority control of Philtranco in 1999.

Alvarez is the owner of Tritran, a major Southern Tagalog bus operator, which has since been merged into Philtranco's network.

Philtranco has an existing fleet of 349—20 units for luxury services, 164 air-conditioned units and 165 ordinary units—serving 13 major terminals nationwide.

Bayan slams 'embedded' PPA charges, fees

A MILITANT group yesterday hit the Energy Regulatory Commission for allowing the Manila Electric Co. to hide purchased power adjustment charges, even as other groups insisted that they be given a part in the review of Meralco's contracts with independent power producers.

Bagong Alyansang Makabayan spokesperson Renato Reyes Jr. said in an interview that the ERC was misleading the public when it claimed that power rates would go down due to the unbundling of Meralco's rates.

Unbundling means the separation of power rates as they appear on customers bills into components, such as generation, transmission, distribution and supply charges.

Last month, the ERC issued a 104-page decision allowing Meralco to raise its rates by 22 centavos per kilowatt-hour through the unbundling scheme.

"The ERC decision practically legitimized the collection of the PPA by 'embedding' this with the generation charge," Reyes said.

Reyes said small consumers would be worst hit by the unbundling of Meralco's rates, with those consuming up to 50 kwh a month paying P91 more.

"Based on our study of actual bills under the old billing system, marginalized consumers paid only P219.23 a month," he said. "With the unbundled and raised rates, they would pay about P320." *Ronnel W. Domingo*

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

Home

ARCHITECT Dante Aguirre beside Nelson Ferraris' fiberglass on wood bas-relief titled "Elemental Tango."

Intimate configuration

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

PEOPLE who just moved into newly built townhouses know the situation all too well. A typical unit may look polished from the outside, but it's still a work in progress inside.

Nonexistent cabinets, rough, unpainted concrete floors and walls, and basic kitchen and toilet fixtures are more the norm than the exception.

Architect Dante Aguirre found himself in a similar fix when he first stepped into his three-story Northpoint townhouse in Pugad Lawin, Quezon City, two years ago.

"Each brand-new unit was made of sturdy reinforced concrete," he says, "but I still needed to put in a considerable amount of work and money to make the place livable and stylish."

Hiring a contractor was out of the question since it required Aguirre to cough up at least P500,000 for the job.

What's he in the industry for? Instead, he tapped the services of two teams composed of carpenters and electricians. His efforts paid off in the form of big savings—P150,000 to be exact.

Aguirre began the work by having several walls and a pair of sliding glass doors knocked down to make way for a pair of indoor rock gardens on the first and second floors. The walls got a fresh coat of white paint, while the rough concrete floor downstairs metamorphosed into white granite tiles.

He then had both bathrooms retiled soon after. The toilet fixtures upstairs had to go as well in favor of sleek imported brands.

His ability to com

INTIMATE/ C2

WHAT'S ON at Robinsons

MAUI and KATYA

Drive along to the Robinsons Movieworld and meet with Maui Taylor and Katya Santos LIVE as they promote their newest movie "SEX DRIVE"

April 5 Saturday [illegible]
Robinsons Movieworld [illegible]
April 5 (Saturday) [illegible] pm
Robinsons Movieworld [illegible]

ROBINSONS R-Malls

Holy Week.
Century TUNA Flakes in Oil
Healthy Week!

"Yup, I'm making a good start with Century Tuna. Low-fat, high-protein, with Omega 3. It's the coolest way to be good...and look good!

Century TUNA
the Supermeat

What Life Is Really About...

Pacific Grove
Tagaytay

A low density subdivision in Tagaytay that's ideal for the entire family. Live a life of leisure in a gated community with 24-hour security complete with all the modern amenities of a premiere subdivision.

Your weekend house today...your home tomorrow!

Now Accepting Reservations.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE at www.tagaytay.com.ph
for a chance to win a free overnight stay at Tagaytay

For announcement purpose only

PACIFIC GROVE Residential Estates Magallanes Drive, Tagaytay City • Developer: G SQUARE PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Call 7402451 / 7401466 / 7402527 for more information

SEVERAL mirror panels impart the living room with an added illusion of space.

AMONG Aguirre's prized possessions are identical "Boomrang" chairs by Philippe Starck and an egg-shaped black footrest by Tato Berlotti of Italy. "I, Goldfish," an acrylic painting by Jun Duarte, is mounted on a black background.

Intimate configuration

In his own home architect Dante Aguirre shows how to reconstitute a newly built townhouse even before it is constituted

From page C1

bine form with function is evident in a number of newly installed fixtures in the second-floor bathroom: a stainless steel towel ring below the sink, a transparent shower curtain with built-in pockets featuring photocopied pictures of family and friends, several glass shelves that hold bottles of perfume and various toiletries, and window diffusers made of cardboard cutouts.

"I have my staff to thank for the cutouts," he says with a wink. "I have them change it at least every two weeks."

Permanent sheen

The concrete floor upstairs is made from Aguirre's own mixture of black cement and melted shoe polish, which, he swears, imparts the entire area with a permanent sheen. If anything, the floor is a no-frills affair requiring no more than a damp cloth to maintain.

By having the railings removed, Aguirre was able to transform a structure as utilitarian as the stairs into a sculptural element. He further polished each step with black cement and lined it with black ceramic tiles.

"In less than a month, I was able to move in," he says with a chuckle. "I really had to do it quick because I wanted to be as close as possible to my elderly parents."

Aguirre used the savings to buy additional lighting fixtures from Italy and various accent pieces from all over Europe that now make up his new home, a cross between modernism and Zen.

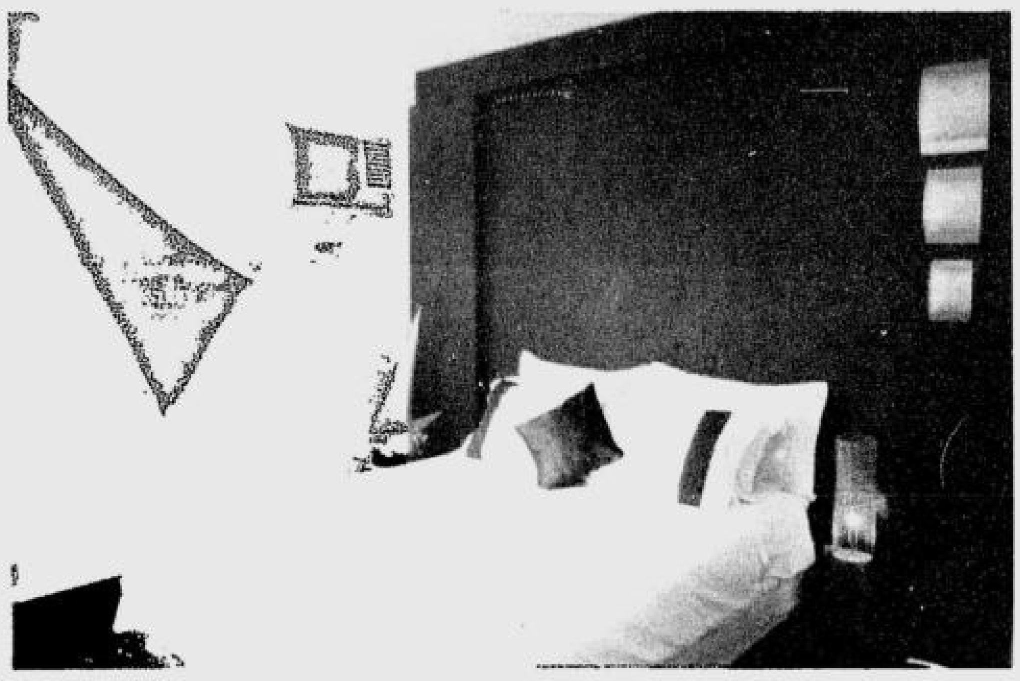
"I'm lucky I came from a condominium," he adds. "I was able to fit in most of my old furniture pieces and art collection."

Aguirre credits his family for nurturing in him a passion for the arts. His father, Eric Aguirre, is also an architect. He also comes from a clan of artists such as National Artists Francisco "Botong" Francisco and Lucio San Pedro.

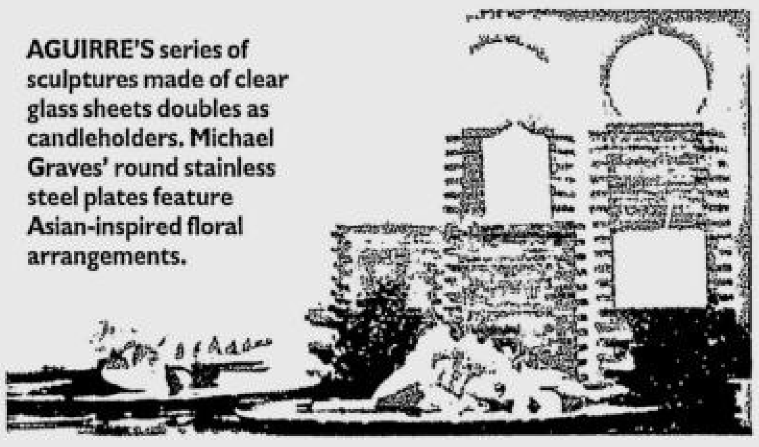
Aside from his own sculptural pieces, Aguirre's cache includes a pair of "Boomrang" chairs by Philippe Starck, a sculpture by National Artist Napoleon Abueva, several acrylic works by Jun Duarte, an installation art by Erwin Chiongson, and a prized acrylic painting by Lao Lianben titled "Light and Substance." He had the work, which now hangs prominently on the stairwell wall, framed in black cloth.

"It's my personal favorite," Aguirre says of the work. "It reminds me of a man walking toward the light."

Despite brimming with ideas and the avail-

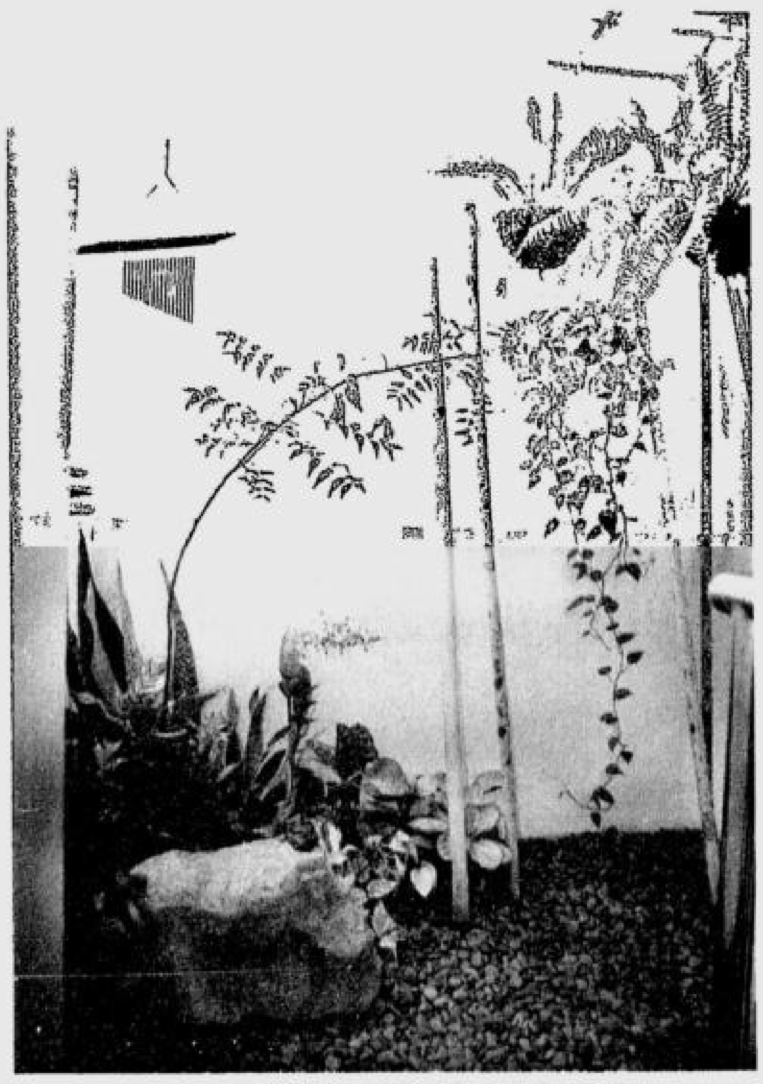


WHITE and dark cobalt blue walls impart the minimalist room with a warmer feel. The tuxedo curtain echoes the bedroom's color scheme.

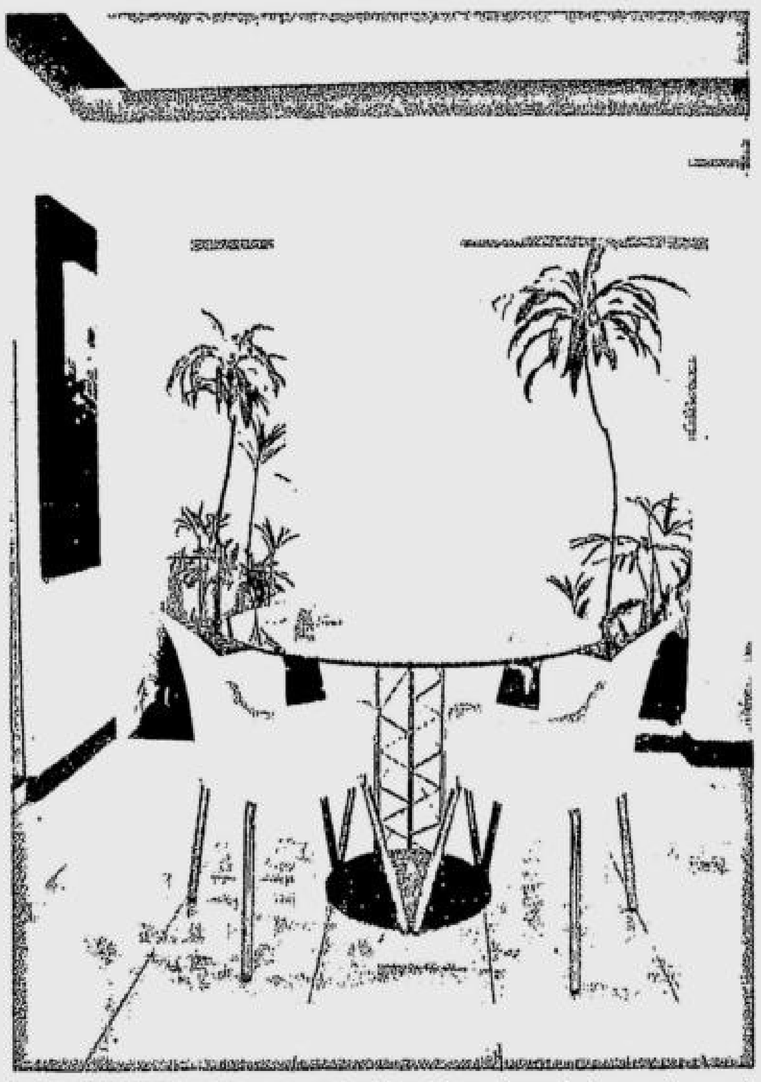


AGUIRRE'S series of sculptures made of clear glass sheets doubles as candleholders. Michael Graves' round stainless steel plates feature Asian-inspired floral arrangements.

LOW furnit
and solid lines
in keeping w
the guestroo
Zen inspirat



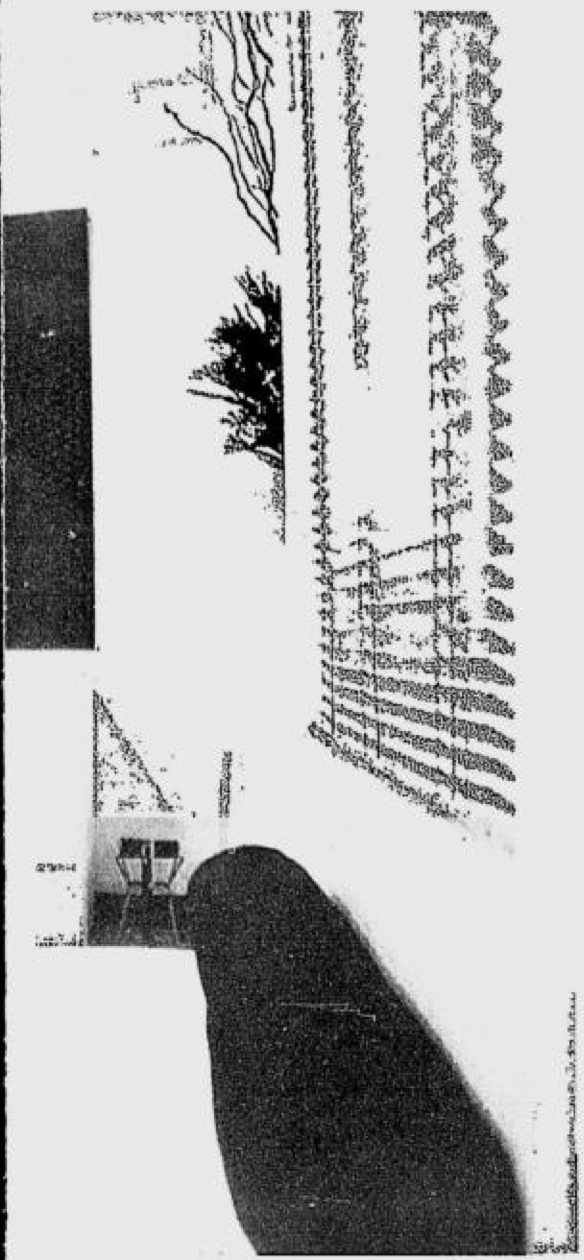
THE SECOND-FLOOR garden with live plants is Aguirre's meditation area.



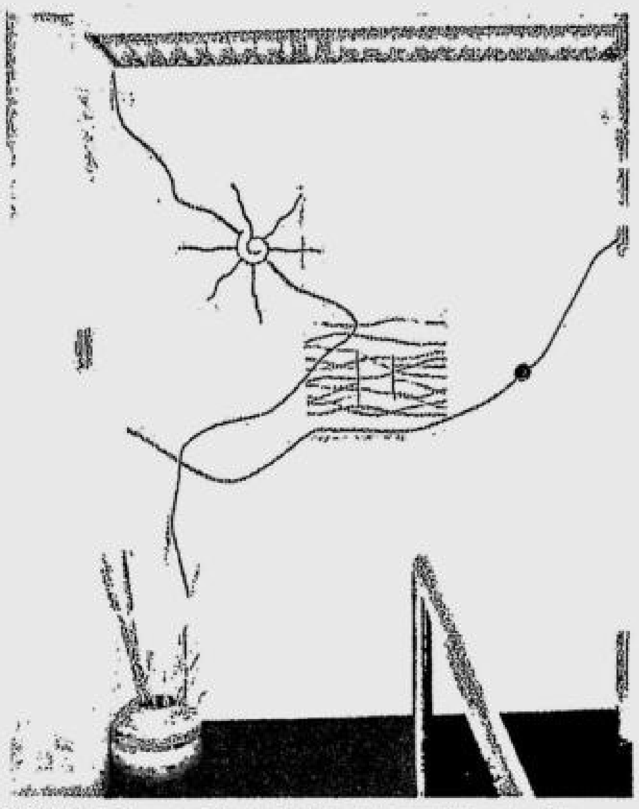
THREE-SEATER. Glass-topped table with sculptural chrome legs and sleek plastic chairs

SEE-THROUGH shower curtain has pockets galore to hold photocopied family pictures.

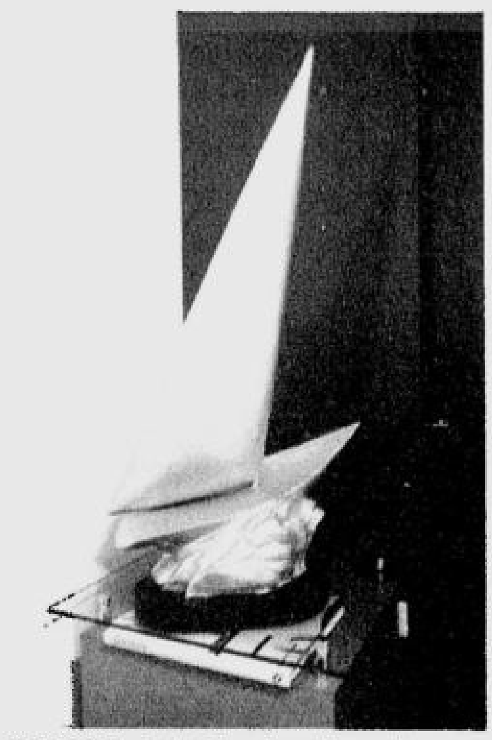
NIC
and
is m
gray



LAO Lianben's "Light and Substance" is framed in black cloth and hung on the stairwell wall.



ERWIN Chiongson's installation art complements Jun Duarte's "Cosmic Window."



NATIONAL Artist Napoleon Abueva's sculpture gets a blast of silver-gray automotive paint.

ability of people to execute them, Aguirre admits that it was no joke to transform a bare townhouse into a chic abode.

It certainly helped that he knew the townhouse's configuration by heart. After all, as one of the architects of E.V. Aguirre & Partners, he himself designed the units that now make up the entire middle-class community, including its public areas such as a park, clubhouse and basketball court.

"I knew what walls to knock down and where to tap for new electrical connections," he says. "I certainly needed more outlets because of the additional lighting system I had to install."

Aguirre, for example, had the guestroom wall knocked down and moved several inches to provide him access to his meditation garden featuring bamboo poles and real plants he himself tends (the one in the living room was designed by Chiongson).

Since he plans to build another flight of stairs leading to the still-to-be-refurbished third-floor attic, he left the stainless steel railing on the second floor devoid of glass sheets.

"I don't want to spend on something that I'd have to knock down in the future," he says. "I plan to have a cathedral ceiling and metal stairs suspended on turn buckles and cables for the attic."

Second flight

Actually, a second flight of stairs wasn't in the original plan. Ideally, building a spiral staircase on the second-floor landing is the cheapest and easiest way to get to the attic. That was until Aguirre had his private bathroom adjacent to the landing extended to make room for a linen cabinet.

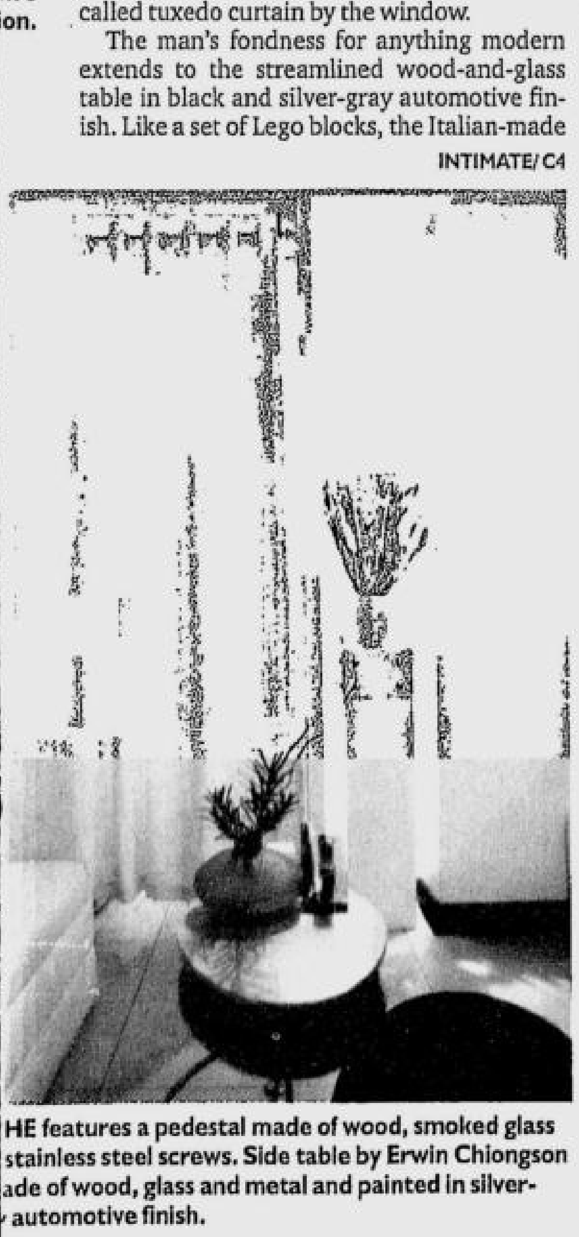
"The bathroom's wall had to be moved as well, leaving little room for a spiral staircase," Aguirre explains.

Aguirre's private sanctum echoes the minimalist flavor of his all-white living room. This time, however, he worked for a warmer feel by combining white with cobalt blue "satin" walls. The color scheme is repeated in the so-called tuxedo curtain by the window.

The man's fondness for anything modern extends to the streamlined wood-and-glass table in black and silver-gray automotive finish. Like a set of Lego blocks, the Italian-made

INTIMATE/ C4

ure
are
with
m's
ion.



HE features a pedestal made of wood, smoked glass stainless steel screws. Side table by Erwin Chiongson ade of wood, glass and metal and painted in silver- automotive finish.

Robinsons Department Store

Sportswear Sale

April 1 to 15

up to 50% off
on shoes & bags and mens' & ladies' active wear

Yvonne's SPEEDO Dickies ★CONVERSE mona lisa K•SWISS

JANSPORT • ACCEL & BROOKS • ROBERTSONS/ROCKY MOUNTAIN • PBA • TRETORN

www.rds.com.ph
Per DTI-NCR Permit No 1208 Series of 2003
Fashion everyday

Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Place Manila, Novaliches, Imus, Sta. Rosa, Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo | Robinsons Metro East | Robinsons Starmills Pampanga
Robinsons Town Mall Los Baños | Tutuban Center | Starmall Shaw | Metropolis Star Alabang | Waltermart Sta. Rosa, Gen. Trias | Nepo Mall Pampanga

Intimate configuration

From page C2

worktable can be interchanged and made to look different each time a certain piece is moved.

Aguirre even had Abueva's wooden sculpture by the bedside repainted silver-gray.

"The automotive finish gave it a certain shine," he says with a nervous smile. "I hope the artist won't mind."

The guestroom features a bed that sits on a low, wood-box frame. In fact, all the furniture pieces are low in keeping with Aguirre's attempts to impart the room with an added illusion of height. A black-and-white comforter and several accent pieces from the Orient add to the room's Japanese feel. A pair of abstract oil paintings by R.M. de Leon blends seamlessly into the entire setup.

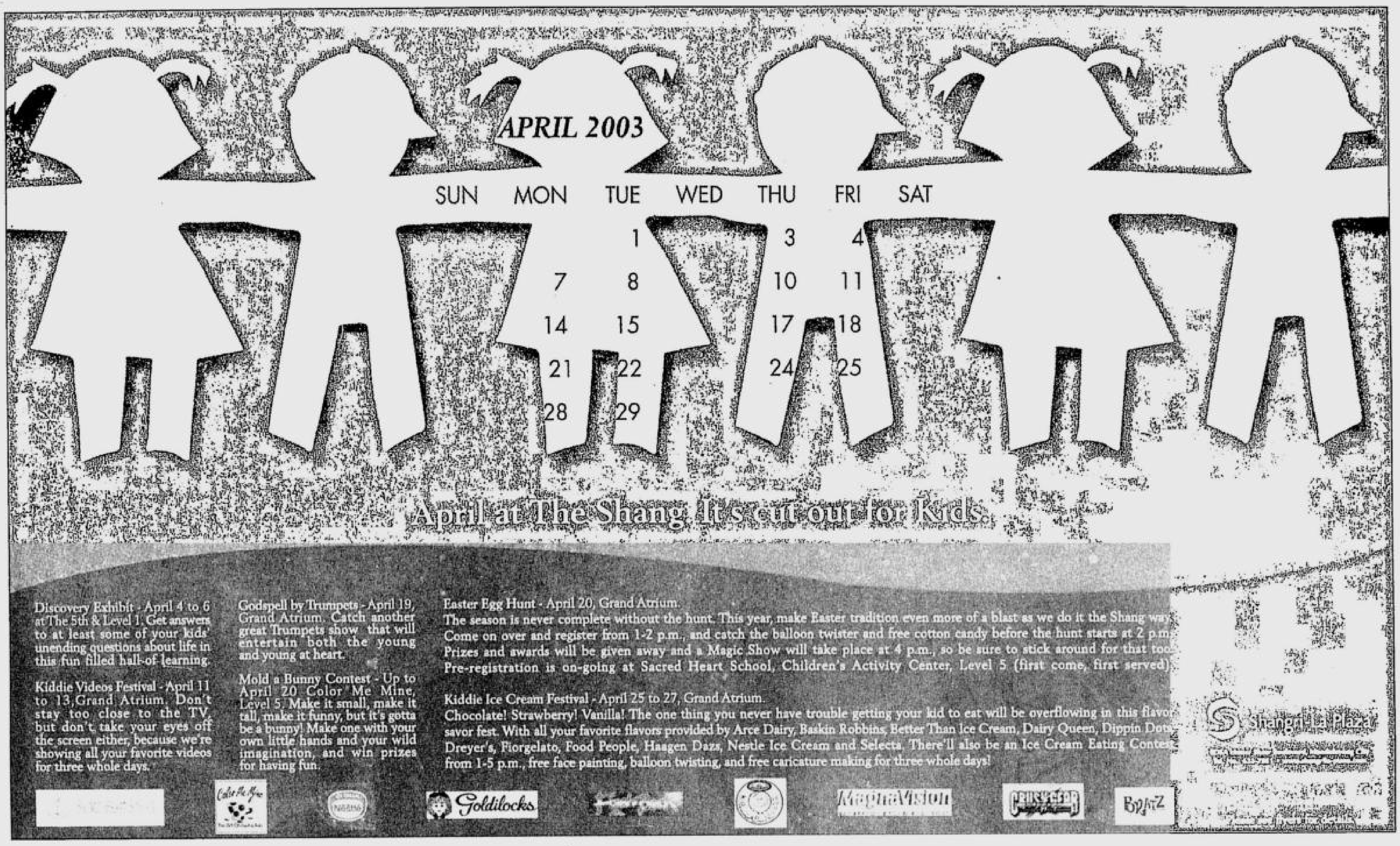
Indeed, one of the challenges townhouse dwellers continually face is limited space. Aside from limiting his choice of furniture to small pieces (the glass-topped, three-seat dining table with chrome legs is a perfect example), Aguirre has made it a point to buy items that he can refashion into something else.

A pair of wooden triangular tables, this time in brown automotive finish, doubles as accent and buffet tables in the living room. Due to its geometric shape, a set of stainless steel accent pieces from Firma functions both as candleholders and vases. In the meantime, Aguirre linked them together to form a single accent piece.

A niche in the living room that Aguirre designed features a pedestal made of wood and smoked glass with stainless steel screws.

The plant that sits on the pedestal, however, will have to go as soon as the architect gets his hands on a Ramon Orlina glass sculpture. Only then will the townhouse's makeover be finally complete.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



April at The Shang It's cut out for Kids.

Discovery Exhibit - April 4 to 6 at The 5th & Level 1. Get answers to at least some of your kids' unending questions about life in this fun filled hall-of-learning.

Kiddie Videos Festival - April 11 to 13, Grand Atrium. Don't stay too close to the TV, but don't take your eyes off the screen either, because we're showing all your favorite videos for three whole days.

Godspell by Trumpets - April 19, Grand Atrium. Catch another great Trumpets show that will entertain both the young and young at heart.

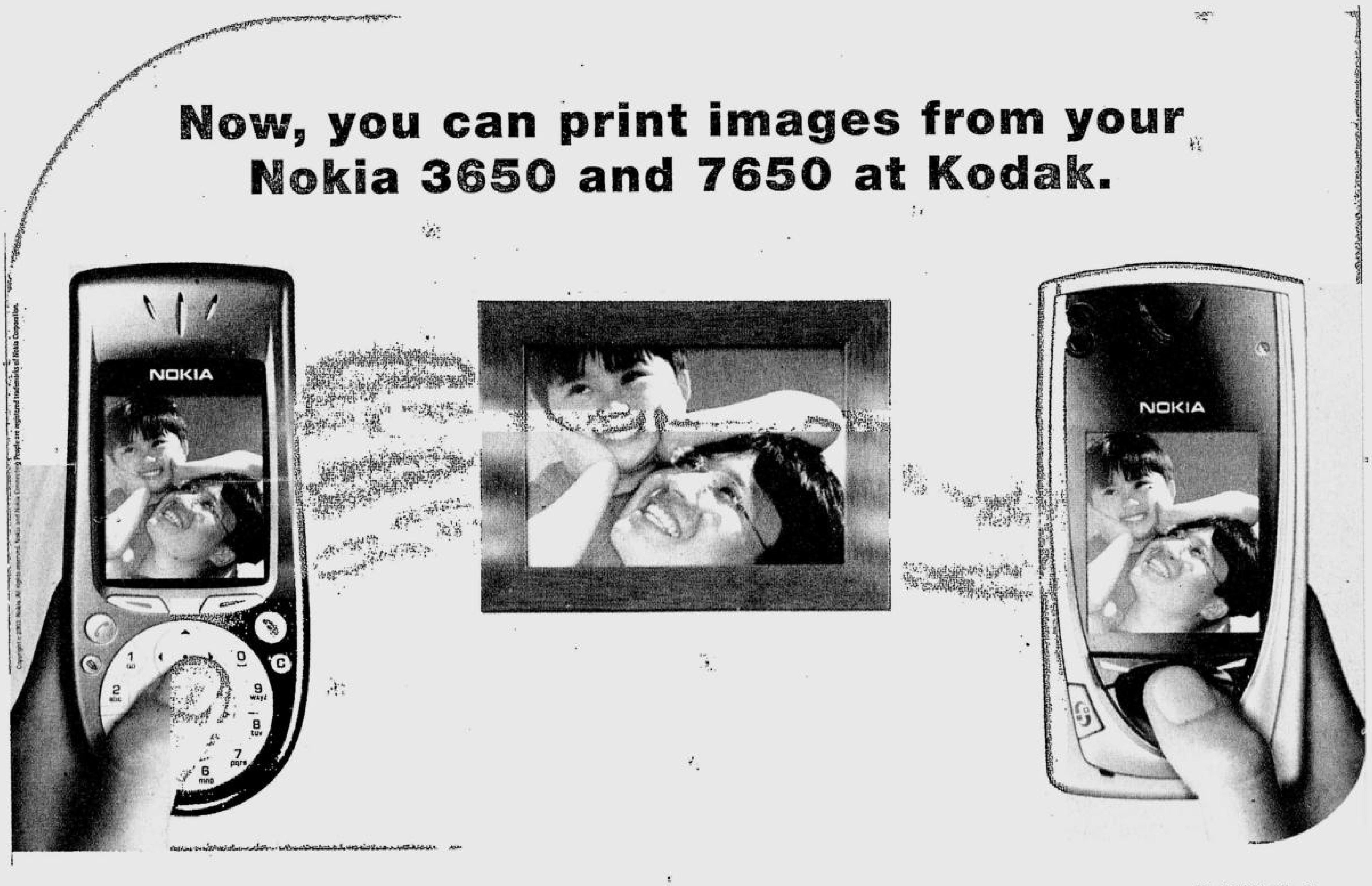
Mold a Bunny Contest - Up to April 20 Color Me Mine, Level 5. Make it small, make it tall, make it funny, but it's gotta be a bunny! Make one with your own little hands and your wild imagination, and win prizes for having fun.

Easter Egg Hunt - April 20, Grand Atrium.
The season is never complete without the hunt. This year, make Easter tradition even more of a blast as we do it the Shang way. Come on over and register from 1-2 p.m., and catch the balloon twister and free cotton candy before the hunt starts at 2 p.m. Prizes and awards will be given away and a Magic Show will take place at 4 p.m., so be sure to stick around for that too. Pre-registration is on-going at Sacred Heart School, Children's Activity Center, Level 5 (first come, first served).

Kiddie Ice Cream Festival - April 25 to 27, Grand Atrium.
Chocolate! Strawberry! Vanilla! The one thing you never have trouble getting your kid to eat will be overflowing in this flavor savor fest. With all your favorite flavors provided by Arce Dairy, Baskin Robbins, Better Than Ice Cream, Dairy Queen, Dippin Dots, Dreyer's, Fiorgelato, Food People, Haagen Dazs, Nestle Ice Cream and Selecta. There'll also be an Ice Cream Eating Contest from 1-5 p.m., free face painting, balloon twisting, and free caricature making for three whole days!

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

Now, you can print images from your Nokia 3650 and 7650 at Kodak.



NOKIA 3650

A great new way to make moments special!

NOKIA 7650

Connect to life like never before! With the new Nokia 3650 and the Nokia 7650 with built-in digital camera. Just Aim, Click, and Print those captured moments at your nearest participating Kodak outlet. Have fun with your digital prints with templates, stickers and other printing options. Frame those special moments or stick them on your scrapbooks, and anywhere, for keeps. For inquiries, email write_nokia@nokia.com or visit select Kodak outlets. See posters for details.

www.nokia-asia.com

KODAK BRANCHES: Makati: Valero - Island Photo • Greenbelt - Gen Photo • Makati Cinema Square - Gen Photo • SM Makati - Kodak Express • Greenbelt - Kameraworld • Glorietta 3 - Photo Depot • Glorietta 3 - Floro Foto • Mandaluyong: SM Megamall - Island Photo • SM Megamall - Kameraworld • Shangri-La Plaza - Photo Station • SM Megamall - Kodak Express • Muntinlupa: Alabang Town Center - Kameraworld • Quezon City: SM North Edsa - Kameraworld • SM Cubao - Kodak Express • SM Fairview (Supermarket) - Kodak Express • SM Fairview (Dept. Store) - Kodak Express • SM North Edsa (Supermarket) - Kodak Express • SM North Edsa (Dept. Store) - Kodak Express • Parañaque: SM Sucat - Kodak Express • Las Piñas: SM Southmall - Kodak Express • Manila: Robinsons Ermita - Kameraworld • SM Harrison Plaza - Kodak Express • SM Manila - Kodak Express • SM Sta. Mesa - Kodak Express • Masangkay - Color World • San Juan: Ortigas - Photo Z • Pangasinan: Dagupan - Photo King • Cebu: Ayala Center - Colours Foto Shop • SM Cebu - Kodak Express • Iloilo: SM Mandurriao - Kodak Express • Davao: SM Davao - Kodak Express • Benguet: Baguio - Sunshine Supermart • Ilocos: Batac - VL and Sons • Laoag - 5 Sisters • Tuguegarao: Tuguegarao - Northern Star Imaging • Cavite: SM Bacoor - Kodak Express • Pampanga: SM Pampanga - Kodak Express

Home LIFESTYLE

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Lifestyle is out, values are in

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

At the end of the day you come home to old-fashioned security, anything to give you shelter from today's missiles and virus

THE WAR is in our bedroom, and we're not about to press the remote control's off button. Unlike our parents who went to war, we were not destined to go to the war front—unless you consider picket lines war, which they're not. Instead, the war invaded our zen-candle-filled home.

I know of some busybodies who show up for lunch a bit late because they couldn't tear themselves away from CNN/BBC/Fox. We're being force-fed Reality TV.

That was in the last two weeks. I don't know if that addiction will be carried over to next week. We could be desensitized to war images/sounds by then, so unlike that midnight two weeks ago when, half-asleep, you kept an eye on the orange balls of fire going off one after another on the screen in front of your bed as the bombings began. Sunday night, the only time I switched channels was to watch "Oro Plata Mata" on Cinema One.

A friend texted me to explain why he was overcome with emotion about the war (pro, not anti). His American ex-stepson was being sent to Basra that night. I didn't understand fully until that same night when Basra was introduced to us, war-news consumers, as the destination before Baghdad. From then on, war-news junkies became familiar with one obscure battle zone after another.

Time and Newsweek gave the stories, the philosophy, the protagonists, the terms behind the war. Bunker busters. MK-84s. Neoconservatives. The top Iraqi spy who tipped off Pentagon on where Saddam was supposedly spending the night, thus the rush precision-bombing on the war's first night. The dictator's ex-mistress who confirmed to the military top brass that the man on the news video was indeed Saddam—by counting the moles on his face.

We'd been on war-story diet ever since and we're beginning to get used to the sense of (distant) danger, until SARS hit. Then the danger became much closer to home—only a sneeze and a cough away, to be precise.

Just the other day I overheard some moms complaining that the drugstore had run out of surgical masks. This was here, not in Hong Kong.

The masks could very well be the latest product of what "futurist" Faith Popcorn called the "paranoia industries." If the '80s had the decadent lifestyle, the '90s the "Decency Decade" (Popcorn's term), the lifestyle of the 21st century is obviously being determined by paranoia. This is not to say that the dangers aren't real. They are, but they magnify into insecurities bordering on paranoia.

Last Monday, at our Metro Weddings bridal show, the Hotel InterContinental poolside brimmed with guests, each one we presumed had SARS at the back of his mind but did not let fear take over, not enough to skip *beso-beso*.

When I reminded my hermit friend Auggie Cordero that he, with the other designers, had to face the crowd and take a bow at curtain call, he complained, "I'll have to hold my breath that long?" (I didn't want to know if he was serious or not.)

Paranoia wasn't born with SARS. It's been around like forever. But that and the frenetic lifestyle and the rat race gave rise to "cocooning" that started from the '90s to the present. Cocooning, Popcorn said, was when one had the "impulse to go inside when it just gets too tough and scary outside."

One seeks refuge in the home, which could be literal or figurative. It could be a state of mind.

With SARS, terrorism and all, today we have something like what Popcorn called "armored cocooning" where one tries to resort to every protection imaginable against impending danger.

All this brings me to my point: Like it or not, we're running back to good, old-fashioned values, like going home to Mama. The emphasis could shift from "lifestyle" to values.

The past two decades or even more, in fact, since I started covering a field we came to dub as "lifestyle," mostly everything was seen in terms of lifestyle—even politics and business. (I remember how in the Manila Chronicle, a news editor described my section as "peripheral" because it was "just lifestyle." He misread the times.) How we look, dress, dine, shop, keep fit, stay healthy, decorate our home, spend leisure, and so on.

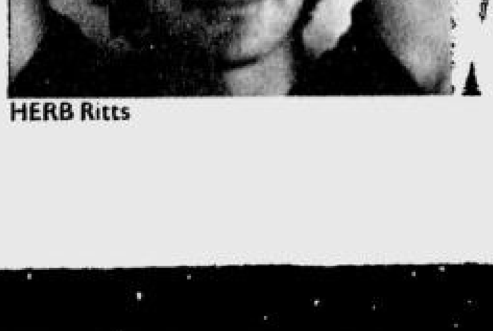
Even Time, Newsweek, Fortune devoted covers to dieting, cosmetic surgery, health, the glamour business and the like. TV went into lifestyle magazine shows. There's the Lifestyle Network.

Nothing is spared so we can live it up, live chic—thanks to technology and software-to-go. Liposuction. Botox. All the fat-zappers. Anti-aging. You get the drift. We've been so in control. Then something like war and SARS hit and you realize you can't be in control all the time. Technology, glamour and all that self-indulgent lifestyle can give you only so much security. Even HK, the land of almighty deals, is quaking in its Louis Vuitton boots.

At the end of the day, you come home, even if only figuratively, and you find refuge and a sense of security in everything cozy and familiar.

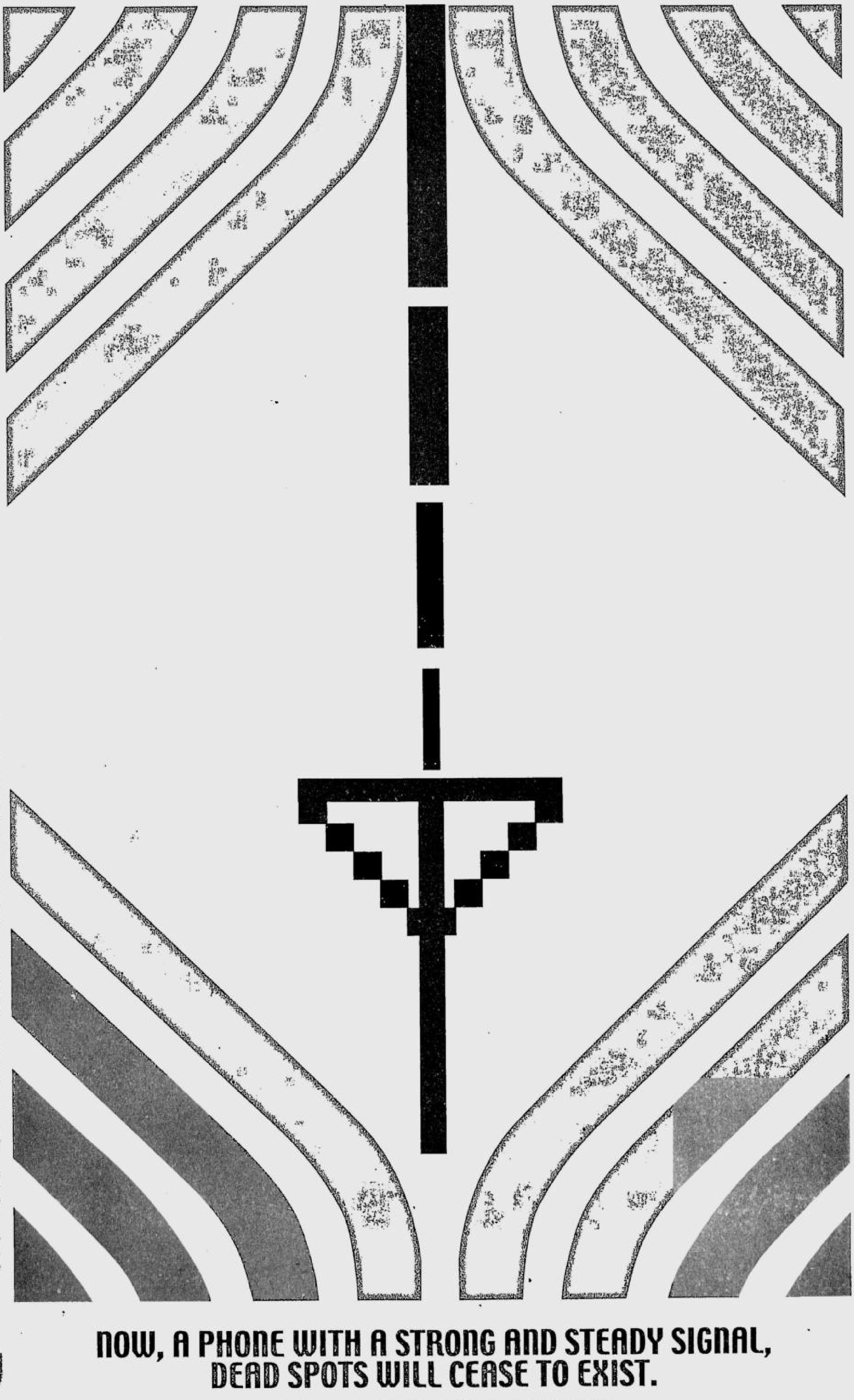
Old-fashioned values, stashed away in the attic all this time, can give you solace. Family.

LIFESTYLE/ D4

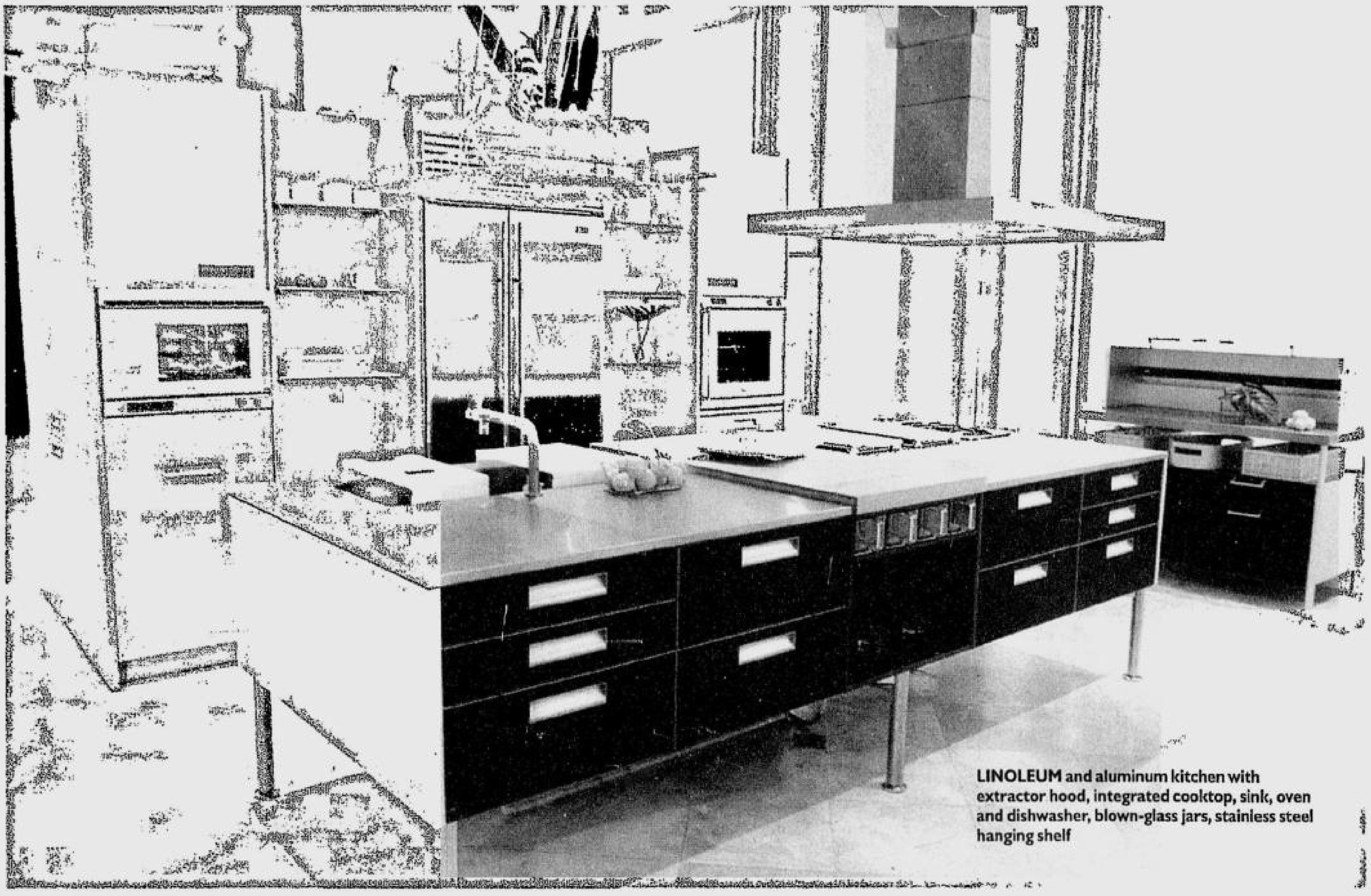


HERB Ritts

RICHARD Gere (left) writes about famous photographer Herb Ritts in the March issue of Vogue.



NOW, A PHONE WITH A STRONG AND STEADY SIGNAL,
DEAD SPOTS WILL CEASE TO EXIST.
AND WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT A CELLPHONE.



LINOLEUM and aluminum kitchen with extractor hood, integrated cooktop, sink, oven and dishwasher, blown-glass jars, stainless steel hanging shelf

Shangri-La Retail Arcade houses the German kitchen brands Bulthaup and Gaggenau and the Italian furniture brand Minotti, over which J.Lo gets wild

Kitchen class, living room charm

MOORE sofa, Klee and Diller armchairs, and Johns bookshelf

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Chito Vecina

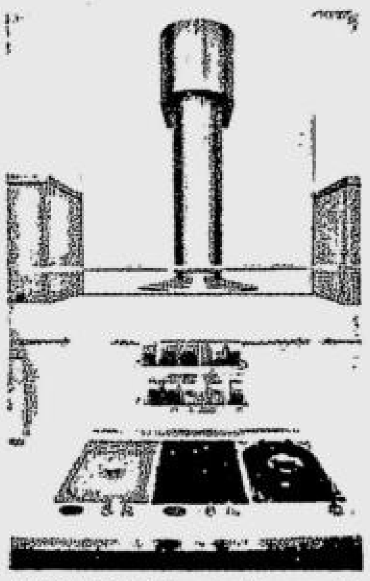
TODAY'S homes are characterized by open spaces, by one fluid flow from the entertainment area to the kitchen. Unifying the living and the kitchen into one harmonious design, however, is a tricky business.

Those with impeccable taste and fat bank accounts may want to check the new high-end furniture showroom on the second level of Shangri-La Retail Arcade (Makati Shangri-La Hotel, Ayala Avenue, Makati City, tel. 812-8516 and 830-2230).

The showroom is the exclusive local distributor of the German brands Bulthaup and Gaggenau (kitchen) and the Italian brand Minotti (living room). These are brands that Hollywood stars go for. J.Lo recently bought a line of furniture for her villa with fiancé Ben Affleck, Sylvester Stallone has the kitchen, and so do celebrities George Clooney, Michael Jordan, Madonna and Julia Roberts.

Niche market

"Like paintings, you should know why it's expensive—the brushstroke, name of the artist, etc.," says the showroom's young owner and manager Ferdinand Ong.



EXTRACTOR hood with reusable filters and odor-absorbing materials, blown-glass spice jars, and integrated cooktop

For starters, his kitchen pieces sell 30 percent above any known brand in the world.

Despite the turbulent times and plunging peso, Ong is optimistic about the future and his new business. "Things have no way to go but up," he says, "and we have prepared the infrastructure for these brands to work well when the economy picks up."

But why invest, say, P4 million, on a kitchen?

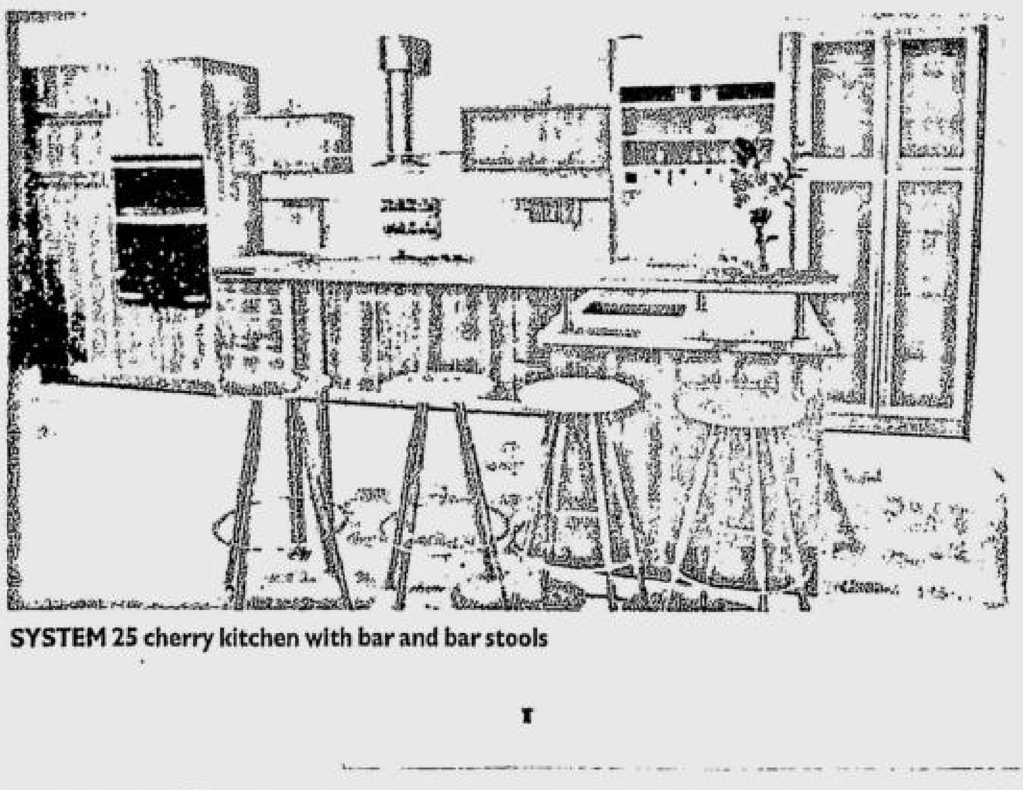
"The kitchen is not just for cooking; we sell a lifestyle with the kitchen," Ong says. "We can make it the centerpiece of your home, more comfortable for socializing and meeting people."

Eye for detail

Quality is assured with multifunctions for no-nonsense flexibility—mostly handmade. "We don't make anything ahead of time, and majority is handmade because we believe no machine can duplicate what a human hand can do."

That Bulthaup has a meticulous eye for detail is an understatement. Its bread container alone is made of terra cotta, which has the ability to retain and release moisture, keeping bread fresh longer.

A kitchen order of cherry wood panel, for instance—the same wood used for producing violins—will be made from one tree only. Sure, the method is environment-friendly, but to Bulthaup that means seamless grains, perfectly consistent from the top drawers to the bottom cabinets.



SYSTEM 25 cherry kitchen with bar and bar stools

For future reference, leftover trees are kept in a temperature-controlled storage room in Aich, Germany. Customers are given a code, and should a door get damaged, a replacement will be made from exactly the same tree. Come mishaps, the Bulthaup kitchen will always look immaculate. "What's best, you can actually smell the tree when you walk into the kitchen," Ong says.

You can choose from Cherry, Maple, Beech, American Walnut, Bamboo, Apple and Oak. Lacquers are the same as those for grand pianos; door handles are made by aircraft manufacturers, and a shipbuilding technique is used to mesh things seamlessly.

Bulthaup is not lacking in technology either. Drawers without handles have touch latch-handle mechanism where a tap of the finger is all that's needed to open them, a childlock, a soft-glide mechanism that automatically closes drawers with just one gentle push, etc.

Timeless

Only two types of kitchen are available worldwide: System 20 and System 25. System 20 is the mobile kitchen—for those who are waiting for a permanent home to be finished but want the kitchen anyway, those who want to expand their imagination and often re-layout their kitchens, or those who want to build slowly their dream kitchen.

Designs come with integrated kitchentops, cookware, chopping board, sinks, etc. Made mostly from high-grade stainless steel and aluminum, System 20 is the modern, industrial look.

System 25 veers toward the traditional, warm kitchen, ideal for those who want a permanent structure. Over 30 main colors in varying shades are offered and 25 different materials, from wood to steel to lacquer to laminate. Many clients, however, choose to mix-match both models to better suit their kitchen needs and preference.

"It's like the Barcelona chair," Ong says. "It's as timeless as it should be. We know our designs will fit a traditional house or an extremely modern house."

An option is to integrate Gaggenau kitchen appliances—"+/- 1" accuracy ovens and integrated cooktops of either electric or LPG gas. "The technology put into Gaggenau is three years in advance, that's why its design does not change in five years," Ong says. "In essence, we are the complete kitchen package."

Purity

For understated elegance, there's the Minotti living room showcase. Designs are a tad modern and chic, but are neither loud nor dry.

Everything in moderation, a careful balance of simple lines and subtle purity. Depending on aesthetic requirements, the Minotti lines offer 50 variations of sofas, armchairs, coffe tables, lamp, bookshelves, lounge chairs, dining sets, carpets and even beds.

The character pieces are handcrafted and made to order. Ong says Minotti sofa-makers undergo eight years of training. Feathers for the cushion, says Ong, are carefully inserted one by one for utmost comfort.

"It is, in fact, considered the most comfortable sofa in the world," Ong adds.

Minotti products are easy to maintain. Save for the frame, everything can be washed or dry-cleaned. There are over 100 colors to choose from, and fabrics range from leather, suede, pony hair, crocodile skin.

The showroom, although technically open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., has flexible hours, depending on a client's availability. Appointments are necessary beyond regular store hours.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

POLLOCK sofa and Still side table

Out of Africa

Young photog gets valuable nature lessons from South Africa

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

KATHY Chua, who is in her early 20s, is back from a five-week solo trip to South Africa.

The country is not new to her. She was one of the Asian students sent by Cathay Pacific to Johannesburg in 1997 to visit the wilderness nearby as part of their prize in an essay contest.

Kathy returned from that first trip awed by what she saw, and learned about wildlife conservation. It even inspired her to organize My Zoo Volunteer Group Foundation, which, for the past three years, has been assisting Manila Zoo personnel as tour guides, among other functions.

Last September, when the World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg, Kathy went there even if she was not a participant. A camera bug (she has her own photo studio, Adphoto), she decided to use this skill along with her environmental interests to record the trip.

Her experience was doubly rewarding, for today, as she bubbles over with her stories, she has photos to illustrate them and ideas to share with environmentalists and anyone who cares to listen.

She could go on and on about her observations, but she's decided to concentrate instead on conservation efforts in the places she visited, which she hopes would be picked up by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or other interested groups.

Backpacking

Incidentally, as a solo traveler, Kathy found it safer and more pleasurable to go with backpackers who were welcome wherever they went. It's also a great way to meet young people like herself.

Her trip took her from Joburg, site of Johannesburg Zoo, to Capetown, and even to Drakensburg, known as Tolkien country as it is the hometown of the famous "Lord of the Rings" author. In between were trips to several national parks where conservation was practically an art.

South Africans, Kathy says, know their animals. The more affluent kids go on safaris and bring their tents to learn about animals in their natural habitats.

The less affluent go to beautiful zoos, which sometimes offer lodgings and give them a good chance to observe the ways of the animals. Most zoos have breeding programs so visitors can see, first hand, how animals are cared for.

In her treks, Kathy saw animals she never even heard of before, like the blesbok, an antelope with horns.

Impala and wildebeest were all thriving, she reported, which was why some restaurants had their meats on their menus. This was permitted as long as the animal was not on the endangered list.

Some animals, however, were monitored closely to conserve them. It was illegal for individuals or pet stores to buy and sell them. One of these was the red-eared slider terrapin which, to Kathy, looked very much like a Ninja Turtle.

She is concerned about those in Manila Zoo, where about 120 of the species are cared for, most of them donated by people who originally saw them as cute little pets until they grew, unfortunately, into huge, unwieldy turtles.

In South Africa, Kathy saw, snakes, which are not cute at all, were not killed even during surprise encounters. South Africans know they have a role in the ecosystem.

One resident, Kathy recalls, found in her garden a poisonous species called the "boomslang" about a meter long. She caught it, kept it caged for some time, then decided to release it to seek its place in nature. After all, she reasoned, it's a tree-dwelling snake feeding on rats and other pests, and was not likely to harm people.

No transport problem

Tourists and backpackers had no problem with transportation, reported Kathy. They could always rely on the Bazbus to bring them to a hotel or lodging place, and then pick them up at a specified time and date. Somehow, this made Kathy feel safe and secure.

Ecotourism seemed like a way of life to South Africans, and making places attractive to visit was very much in their consciousness. The roads were wide and trees grew on both sides. It was common to see wild animals crossing the street, like the giraffe that Kathy photographed as it got between their motorcade.

Seeing ferocious animals at close range could be even more thrilling, Kathy learned, when she tried to "shoot" a lioness that caught a little fowl (Kathy couldn't identify it, not being a common species). But in the zoo, where dormitory space was available to backpackers like herself, lion cubs were just cute pets.

A visitor has several choices of eco-adventures in the South African wilderness. There are treetop canopy tours, where the adventurous can go swinging from tree to tree (à la Tarzan), 30 ft above the forest floor, aided by steel cables.

One can go black water tubing, paddling through jungle waters in tube tires; or kloofing, which is similar to bungee jumping—people jump into the water from cliffs—except that no ropes hold the jumper.

Tourists can also go biking or move around on a scooter through the forest. Kathy noted that not a single tree was cut, no animal or visitor injured, despite the varied activities.

Nature at its pristine best made ecotourism, not only enjoyable, but very profitable business as well.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

Memorable gifts
Beautiful weddings

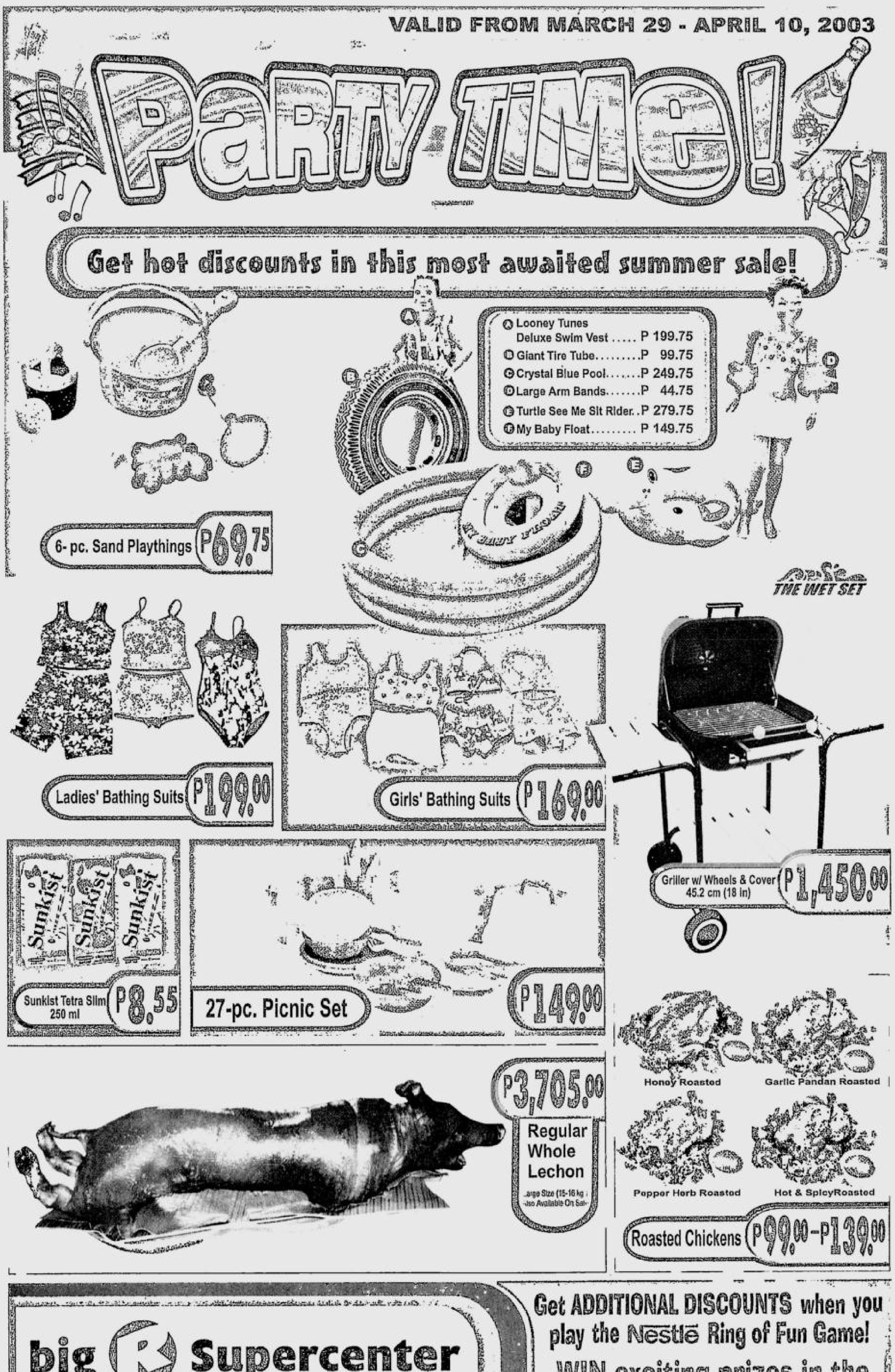
Seminar on flower arrangement

THE FLOWER Cart is conducting a free seminar on flower arrangement on May 4-5 at The Flower Cart, 1467 J. Abad Santos St., Manila.

The half-day course will cover flower handling and basic flower arrangement techniques. Participants may bring home all excess flowers and arrangements made during the workshop.

Call Fiona at 256-9972 or (0917) 356-3953, or visit www.flowercartmanila.com.

IRONING SOLUTION
Filipino families and businesses will find Unisphere's Steam Wizard a simpler and quicker way to iron clothes (five times faster than a regular one), as well as straighten out clothes, curtains plus other fabrics in a matter of minutes. The Steam Wizard is also suitable for fabrics, which when used in normal ironing results in scratching. A free Versa Rack Hanger System will be exclusively available to consumers from Unisphere until June 15 while financing can be coursed via Buysmart (tel. 640-9816) at 202 Urbano Velasco Ave., Pasig City.



VALID FROM MARCH 29 - APRIL 10, 2003
Party Time!
Get hot discounts in this most awaited summer sale!

A Looney Tunes Deluxe Swim Vest ..... P 199.75
B Giant Tire Tube .... P 99.75
C Crystal Blue Pool .... P 249.75
D Large Arm Bands .... P 44.75
E Turtle See Me Sit Rider .. P 279.75
F My Baby Float .... P 149.75

6-pc. Sand Playthings P69.75
THE WET SET
Ladies' Bathing Suits P199.00
Girls' Bathing Suits P169.00
Griller w/ Wheels & Cover 45.2 cm (18 in) P1,450.00
Sunkist Tetra Slim 250 ml P8.55
27-pc. Picnic Set P149.00
P3,705.00 Regular Whole Lechon
arge Size (15-16 kg
lso Available On Sal
Honey Roasted
Garlic Pandan Roasted
Pepper Herb Roasted
Hot & SpicyRoasted
Roasted Chickens P99.00-P139.00

big R Supercenter
NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED
Get ADDITIONAL DISCOUNTS when you play the Nestlé Ring of Fun Game!
WIN exciting prizes in the P&G Pick-A-Prize promo!

BIG R NOVALICHES : ROBINSONS PLACE NOVALICHES, 1199 QUIRINO HIGHWAY COR. MALIGAYA RD. NOVALICHES, QC. TEL#93306806-09
BIG R METRO EAST : ROBINSONS METRO EAST, MARCOS HIGHWAY, COR. IMELDA AVENUE, PASIG CITY TEL# 6822230-37
BIG R STARMILLS : ROBINSONS STARMILLS, OLONGAPO - GAPAN ROAD, SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA TEL# (045) 875-1936
BIG R STA. ROSA : ROBINSONS PLACE STA. ROSA OLD NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. TAGAPO, STA. ROSA LAGUNA (049) 5374290
BIG R CAGAYAN DE ORO : ROBINSONS BIG R SUPERCENTER, ROSARIO CRESCENT COR. FLORENTINO ST. LIMKETKAI CENTER, CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 8567726-29
Per DTI-NCR Permit Number 1386 Series of 2003

Should he take up nursing or medicine?

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I'm now in my third year in psychology and still haven't decided which to take after this—nursing or medicine? My parents, who are both schoolteachers, said they will support me whichever I choose. I go to one of our top universities so, modesty aside, I have a good chance of finishing either.

I understand that there is good demand and very good pay for nurses abroad. That will enable me to achieve my dreams of helping finance my younger siblings' education and building a house for my parents.

On the other hand, why be a nurse when I can be a doctor? Also, the competition for nursing jobs abroad might be steeper now because even our doctors are taking up nursing and going abroad.

DENNIS

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

I would not worry about the competition. As I understand it, the high demand for nurses in the US and in several other countries is projected to last for the next several decades. There will still be lots of openings for you even if doctors-turned-nurses have joined the market.

In the long run, however, what you'd earn as a nurse would be much, much less than what you'd earn as a physician. As a physician, you can also still earn from private practice even when you're past 60 years old, whereas you would likely be retired (and unemployed) by then if you were a nurse.

However, it takes 13-14 years before one can become a full-fledged physician and start earning, while it takes only about half of that period in the case of a nurse. If you take up medicine, then, it is quite unlikely that you will be able to help pay for your sibling's education. (As a doctor, though, you can easily loan them funds later for the education of your nieces and nephews.)

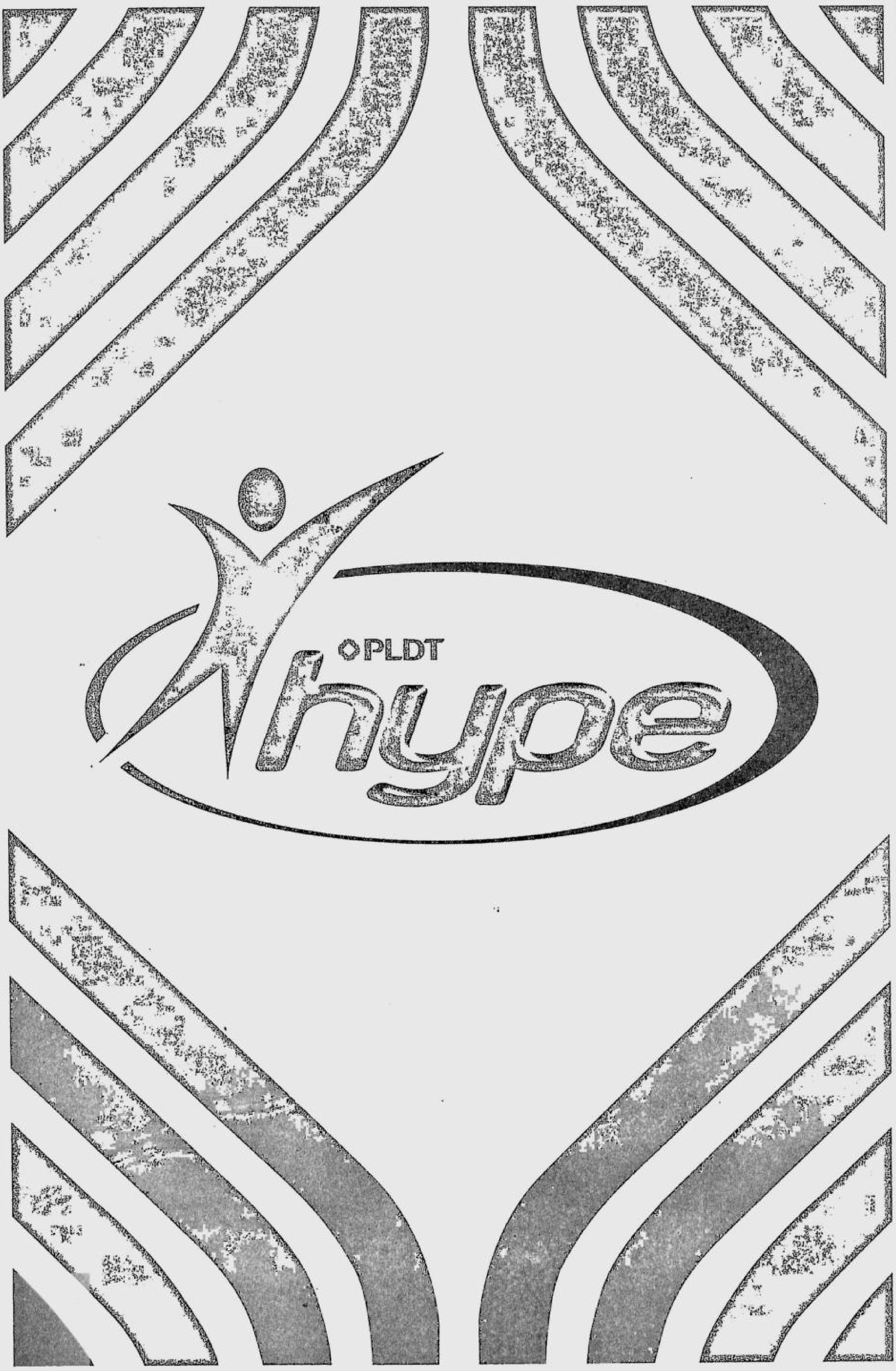
You can build a house for your parents from your income as either a nurse working abroad or as a physician. They'd have that house earlier, though, if you were a nurse. If you were a physician, on the other hand, that house would have to built several years later, although it will most likely be a bigger house and in a nicer neighborhood.

One "intervening" factor you might have missed to factor in is your marriage plans. Your ability to share your funds and time with your siblings and parents will be greatly reduced when you marry. I think the advantage would be greater if you were a physician: You could remain an attractive bachelor longer than if you were a nurse, and your income would still be bigger than a nurse's even after you've split it between your parents and your own family.

So, it seems it all boils down on how you want your profession to reward you. If you want the reward soon, take up nursing, but scale down the benefits. If you want bigger benefits, take up medicine, but increase your patience.

If you still haven't decided after you've finished your psychology course, then enroll in nursing. The fees are lower than in medical school. Should you change your mind later, you could shift to medicine, and your nursing subjects would still be credited.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City



PLDT
hype
NOW, THE ULTIMATE IN LANDLINE MESSAGING BREAKS THROUGH.
AND IT'S WORTH ALL THE HYPE.

Lifestyle is out, values are in

From page D1

Faith and spirituality. Honesty. Tight little relationships and cuddling. Popcorn now calls them Oprah-warmth (Why do you think she's this Age's icon?). The stuff that reminds you of the good memories of childhood.

In short, it's anything that gives you shelter from today's missiles and virus.

I think, in the days to come, people will connect not so much to lifestyle, as to values. Lifestyle, as we have come to define it, has become so ephemeral and vulnerable. What people need these days is chicken soup for the soul because life is a b--ch (and a cliché).

Gere on Ritts, Andre on Vreeland

Speaking of tight little relationships, I didn't know that reading Vogue could tap into your emotions (vanity is no emotion, it's Mastercard/Visa-stressed) until the March issue, where Richard Gere had a touching essay on a bosom friend, the famed photographer Herb Ritts (he discovered the star presence of Madonna before she became Madonna) who died late last year at 50.

Gere knew Ritts in the mid-'70s and both grew into icons in their respective fields. Gere's essay had touching anecdotes, with this most personal ending: "His ashes were laid in the Pacific surf, and he was gone. We threw gardenias in the water. I don't care about his photographs. I'll miss him terribly."

Vogue editor Andre Leon Talley excerpted from his forthcoming book "A.L.T." his recollections about two women who shaped his life—and taste: His grandmother Bennie Frances Davis and the fashion legend Diana Vreeland.

I cannot forget the sight of Talley, this famous byline in Vogue. It was at a Gucci launch in a museum in Milan. I was getting a few words from Tom Ford and he was beside Ford—this huge man in a loose jacket with huge prints, huge bag. More than that he was wearing the accessory of the moment: Attitude. He seemed like a good-natured man.

As it turned out, Andre was raised by his grandmother who "toiled as a maid" in North Carolina. He considered Vreeland his surrogate mom and was by the fashion diva's side even in her last few days.

He recalls: "After Mrs. Vreeland's sight became weak, she took to her bed. That dreary December evening was the first time I was received by Mrs. Vreeland in bed. Her explanation was simple, 'Andre, I've had such a wonderful life and now I've decided to take it easy.'"

Andre writes: "Fashion is no substitute for family, and I do not believe I could ever have learned to appreciate haute couture had I not learned to appreciate simpler things first. Faith, hope, charity, add luxury to the list, because it was that important, taken that seriously in our home. Not the luxury of surfeit and sumptuousness but the luxury of ordinary tasks done well and in a good frame of mind."

That's what I mean about good old-fashioned values reigning supreme these days.

Strong women

Last Monday, the Manila Polo Club saw the gathering of what must be the True Grit sector of the country—women supporting the presidential bid of Raul Roco. About 70 were expected but about 200 showed up, mobilized by Lorna Kapunan. To tick off the names of those present: Bea Zobel, Mercy Tuason, Nini Quezon Avanceña, Vicky Garchitorena, Tessie Luz, Lydia Castillo, Evelyn Singson, Nini Licaros, Sabsy Palanca, among others.

They're calling themselves Women for Roco or W4R, which I reminded, Lydia read more like War. Easily they're among the most strong-willed women in the country, iron ladies who, it seems to me, can take on not only any Roco opponent, but even Saddam himself.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net

Summer sizzles at the mall

STA. Lucia East Department store recently launched its 12th year anniversary raffle promo dubbed as Hot Summer Getaways.

To spice up summer, 12 lucky customers will be sent to the pristine white beaches of Boracay and Club Morocco Beach Resort in Zambales. Loads of cash and gift certificates shall be raffled off in addition to vacation packages.

Simply exchange your P300 single purchase receipt for a raffle coupon. Drop your entries at designated drop boxes until May 31. Draw date is on June 2.

Before you head for the beach, check out Sta. Lucia East Department Store's summer must-haves.

Nice and comfy cotton tops matched with shorts for men, and ladies' spaghetti-strap dresses in floral and pastel shades are absolutely a must this summer. Wear these clothes at the beach or at the mall as you shop around for that sexy swimwear that will certainly make heads turn. Beach gears and inflatables for children are also available.

Trend Spotting

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

All that trash!

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina and Jim Guiao Punzalan

WE'VE always known that the local film industry has been gasping for breath for quite some time now, but we never knew that it was in such a deep rut until Saturday night when it rolled out the bloody red carpet to mark the 21st annual Film Academy of the Philippines awards.

ALL/ E4

SHOCKED AND AWED. A slimmer, youthful-looking Sharon Cuneta draws such reactions in a black Paul Cabral column accented with Swarovski beadwork and pair of bright-colored sashes.

Causeway Tours
"PAY 1 - FREE 1" Offer.
8 - 10 APRIL BANAUE TOUR W/ BONDOC & SAGADA
11 - 13 APRIL GRAND ILOCOS TOUR
HOLYWEEK 2003
(Not included in the promo)
15 - 19 APRIL Combination of CAGAYAN VALLEY & ILOCOS REGION
17 - 20 APRIL BANAUE TOUR W/ BONDOC & SAGADA
For Inquiries & reservations, pls. call: Causeway Tours
Tel. 853-8728 / 851-7294 or Cellphone: (0916)3963963

A face so relaxed & Stress Free
SPECIAL SUMMER PROMO
50%OFF
• Recontouring body massage
• Skin pigmentation treatment
OTHER SERVICES
• Therapeutic Body Massage
• Exfoliating Body Scrub
• Dermatology Skin Treatments
• Slimming Program
• Cosmetic Surgery
• Microdermabrasion
Derm Centre
MAKATI G/F-111 PASEO DE ROXAS BLDG. PASEO DE ROXAS ST. COR. LEGASPI VILLAGE TEL: [illegible]
ORTIGAS 2/F 8101 PEARL PLAZA, PEARL DRIVE, ORTIGAS CBD, PASIG CITY TEL: 637-6506-07

tonight, wear a little something to tickle his fancy
COLORS AND HIGHLIGHTS BY
GOING STRAIGHT SALON
Hair Straightening • Color • Treatment • Care
GRAND CENTRAL / 363-6689 • ROBINSON'S PLACE BACOLOD CITY (034) 441-1064 • ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA / 536-8031 • ROBINSON'S GALLERIA / 632-7322 • MAKATI CINEMA SQUARE 844-2129 • 811-1439 • SM CENTERPOINT / 716-1549 • SM CITY BACOOR / (046) 970-4852 • SM CITY MANILA / 400-5623 • SM NORTH EDSA / 920-3367 • SM FAIRVIEW / 935-7433 • SM MEGAMALL / 633-7048 • SM BICUTAN / 777-9159 • SM PAMPANGA / (045) 961-2125 • SM SOUTHMALL / 805-9611 • SM SUPER CENTER SUCAT / 826-8841 • SM DAVAO / (082) 297-1173 • SM ILOILO / (033) 320-7992 • STA. LUCIA / 681-7437 • CIRCLE C CENTER, CONGRESSIONAL AVE., QC / 928-1473 • PRINCE PLAZA II BLDG. GREENBELT / 893-1716 • FESTIVAL MALL ALABANG / 775-0116
NOW OPEN AT GLORIETTA 2, CLUB FUN, AYALA CENTER, MAKATI / 817-1177

Real People. True Stories.
"Teenager? You must mean my daughters! With Imedeen, my skin's smooth even without make-up."
Joanna Valencia-de Jesus, 33, AVP for Finance, interior design student, mother of two
Joanna de Jesus has the fresh face of a college girl -- plus a successful career and not one but two teenaged daughters! Yet you'd never guess it from her skin: "People can't believe I'm 33!" Thanks to Imedeen, Joanna's not only maintained her young skin -- she's even *improved* it: "I wasn't born with perfect skin. I had sunspots and tiny veins, but they're almost gone: now I don't even need foundation!" Only Imedeen nourishes skin from deep within -- for a smooth, firm, defiantly youthful complexion *without* time consuming rituals. So when her daughters' friends or her own classmates are amazed at her age, Joanna just smiles and says "Believe it -- and believe Imedeen." Imedeen. The Skin Care Tablet.
Ultrasound images of the skin structure: First photo shows photodamaged dermis; second photo shows denser structure which implies better support and ability to hold moisture.
Clinically Proven
IMEDEEN
The Skin Care Tablet

EASTWOOD CITY WALK
An Everyday Feast for the Senses
Eye-popping, hypnotic, magical. Plunge into a place where there's so much to see, taste and enjoy. Treat yourself to a world of exhilarating sights. Whether you drink in the scenes from the ground level or take a bird's eye-view from the tower, let the city of a thousand lights dazzle you with its vivid nighttime glow. Where weekends and holidays find its outdoor cafes, alfresco dining places and lushly landscaped Central Plaza thick with savory gatherings that ring with the sounds of laughter and the music of pleasant conversations. Where flower-scented breezes mingle with the aroma of freshly-brewed coffee. Where the streets vibrate with captivating entertainment and magical rhythms. Where beautiful people abound—and life pulsates and throbs with a distinct energy that will leave you breathless.
Amoeba Music Recall
Bargo
Blue Onion
Cable Car
Café Via Mare
Celadon
Chicago Roadhouse
Country Waffles
Fazoli's
Ipanema
Jack's Loft
Kyo by Takayama
Macau
Mama Rosa
McDonald's
Montego
Mystic Grill
Nappa
Pho Hoa
Sari-Sari Cafeteria
Seattle's Best Coffee
Somethin' Fishy
The Basement
Tokyo Tokyo
Twist of Mingoy's
Via Mare Oyster Bar
West Lake
FASHION SQUARE
Gloss Designer Nails
Hairbytes Salon
Malu Veloso's Garden Room Cafe
MICO by Mia Urquico
The Flower Factory
Eastwood City Walk
Eastwood City,
E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue (C-5),
Quezon City
April Happenings at City Walk
All Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays of the month (except Holy Week)
StreetScapade starting at 7 PM
Street musicians, mime artists and magicians will go around City Walk for a one-of-a-kind outdoor entertainment.
April 10-15, Thursday to Tuesday
Discovery Channel Exhibit at Fashion Square Open Area
Marvel at a gallery of exclusive photos on travel, adventure, science and technology, natural history, animal planet and aviation.
April 20, Sunday
Easter Sunday Celebration at the Central Plaza Starting at 3 PM
Join the egg decorating contest and the traditional egg hunt for prizes and other surprises! Registration starts at 3 pm.
Toy Festival Launch at the Central Plaza
• Beyblade and Crush Gear tournaments
• Pictionary competition
• Gundam exhibit
• Bratz look-alike contest
April 27, Sunday
Beyblade Open Tournament at the Central Plaza Starting at 3 PM

Of business travel wardrobe essentials and voluminous locks

"Is there anything as horrible as starting on a trip? Once you're off, that's all right, but the last moments are earthquake and convulsion, and the feeling that you are a snail being pulled off your rock."—Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Hour of Gold, Hour of Lead

THE COMPANY I am working for is sending me to New York for a series of meetings. I need a wardrobe that is professional, urbane and chic that will take me through five grueling days of negotiations. This is my first business trip, so I'm a bit nervous and harassed. Please give me tips on what and how to pack for this important sojourn.

APPLES' PICKINGS

Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

The first step in planning your business travel .wardrobe is to get an overview of your trip. You already know the destination, duration and purpose, but you must also consider dress codes, not just of the firm you are representing, but of the company you will be dealing with.

Regional dress codes are important, too. It will serve you well to remember that New York is a fashion capital and most of its denizens are impeccably groomed and superbly dressed in basic colors like black, grey or chocolate brown.

You should also keep in mind the various activities you will be engaging in. For example, after all your meetings, will you also be attending cocktails, dinners or the like? Then, make it a point to check the weather so you can dress appropriately.

After taking all these into consideration, the goal is to put together a few pieces that can be worn in different ways and for various occasions. Since this is a business trip, the cornerstone of your wardrobe is a well-tailored suit in a neutral color. Choose one with fabric that has a bit of stretch and does not wrinkle easily.

Then, choose various tops, bags, shoes and accessories that can be mixed and matched with your suit. One day, you can wear your suit with a pastel-colored silk blouse and pearls. For another meeting, you can match it with a knit shell or a sweater set.

A black dress is another staple that can take you from the boardroom to dressy affairs. Wear it with a jacket and sensible pumps for your presentations. For an evening out, match it with stilettos and bold jewelry.

A BUSINESS travel wardrobe that is urbane and chic

You can maximize the use of a particular article of clothing by using accessories or color accents to transform its appearance. Bear in mind that people tend to recall what you wear on top more than the bottom.

In the process of packing your clothes, make sure that you have the right underwear for your outfits. And just in case you will be traveling during the winter, spring or fall, remember that it is better to dress in layers so you can adjust to climate changes or from moving indoors and out.

To make packing easier, you can also lay out all the clothes in your bed and create combinations. Make sure you try them on before packing and check for any stains, missing buttons, broken zippers and such.

Better yet, why not make a list of all the things that you need to bring? You might even want to go as far as creating a wardrobe schedule or rotation. This way, you can edit the articles of clothing you are bringing and yet make the most of each and every piece.

Source: Chic Simple's Dress Smart Women

I've been reading a whole slew of fashion magazines and I've noticed that big, bouncy, sexy, J-Lo-like hair is so in. The problem is I have extremely limp and fine hair. I am so frustrated because it seems totally impossible for me to attain luscious locks. Any suggestions?

After several seasons of severely straight hairstyles that sent a majority of women to various salons for rebonding or hair straightening and relaxing sessions, refreshingly big, sometimes tousled, ultra-feminine 'dos are back in the forefront of fashion and beauty. Now is the perfect time to give your hair and damaging hair irons much-needed rest.

The good news is that there is a sure-fire way to achieve voluminous and healthy-looking hair so, don't despair. Kérastase, a leader in high-end haircare, has designed Volumactive, a new range in its strengthening line of haircare products that can help add volume and life to weak, fine and limp hair.

Breathe body and lift into your lifeless locks by following these simple steps:

Step 1: Cleanse

Use Kérastase Volumactive Bath, a bodifying shampoo that not only cleans but also reinforces hair fiber and adds texture. Thanks to this revolutionary new product, hair becomes stronger, more resistant and gains more body.

CLEANSE, care and texturize your hair for that sexy J-Lo look.

Step: 2 Care

Condition your tresses with Kérastase Volumactive Cream, a vitalizing conditioner that is ultra-light and gives strength and substance to damaged hair. It also detangles, gives body, shine and softness.

Step 3: Texturize

Use Kérastase Volumactive Mousse when styling your hair. This texturizing mousse literally thickens the diameter of hair thus, creating the appearance of more voluminous locks. In addition, it also provides a lasting but natural-looking hold.

To further repair your fine, limp and possibly weak hair, you may also use Kératase Substance Constructive, a leave-on conditioner of sorts that helps your hair gain consistency and a light feeling. It rebuilds hair from the inside and restores its strength. And as an added bonus for those with colored hair, this product helps preserve color brightness.

The right tools like a good vent or roller brush, blower and Velcro rollers and the like are also essential in attaining the hairstyle you desire. For instance, after blow-drying your hair, using large Velcro rollers will help add much needed lift and body.

Although these and other styling tips and tricks can help you achieve voluminous hair, taking care of your hair and avoiding damage and dryness through the use of the right products and treatments are of utmost importance. Of course, a healthy lifestyle is still the number one beauty secret. If you are unsure about the kind of products your hair needs, simply ask your trusted hairdresser to draw up a personalized home care ritual to help you achieve optimum results.

E-mail the author at apsadvice@hotmail.com

New fragrance takes a chance

CHANEL recently introduced Chance, its newest fragrance made in the classic Chanel No. 5 tradition yet with a young, modern twist.

Chance is a fragrance of contrasts. It can be edgy and sharp yet smooth and sexy, as well as young and naughty. Created by Chanel's exclusive nose, Jacques Polge, Chance engulfs its user in orbiting scents of Hyacinth, White Musk, Pink Pepper, Jasmine, Fresh Vetiver, Citrus, Absolute Iris and Amber of Patchouli.

Chance was created with the spirit and intuition of Mademoiselle Coco Chanel who believed in chance.

Chance is available exclusively at Rustan's.

JIEMEI BATHROOM PHILS, INC.
SALE
SAUNA ROOM
WHIRLPOOL
SHOWER ENCLOSURE
SHOWER CENTER
For as LOW as 21,750.00 per PACKAGE!
VISIT US AT
E-Square Bldg.
Unit 101,414-416 Ortigas Ave.,
North Greenhills San Juan M.Mla.
TEL#:705-1813/721-0278/724-3473
SALE from APRIL 1 to APRIL 13

E-SQUARE
MADISON SQUARE
CITY CENTER
VIRRA MALL
ORTIGAS AVENUE
EDSA
TO CAINTA
ROBINSONS GALLERIA

EPSON
EXTREME
THE INTENSE PARTY EVENT!
Visit Epson at the Glorietta Activity Center from March 30 to April 2, 2003 and experience the Epson MARDI GRAS Party event!!!
Witness Epson's latest technologies and get a chance to win
A HONG KONG trip for 2
plus P10,000 pocket money,
Epson printers or scanners
and other exciting items.
(See flyers for details)
4-day event!
Epson Corporate Resellers
AVLS All Visual & Lights Systems
Computer Graphics Inc.
MICRO PACIFIC Technologies Co. Ltd
POWER MAC CENTER
AYALA CENTER
Participating Epson Dealers
COLUMBIA
ELECTROWORLD
NT COMPUTER MART
PC CORNER
PC EXPRESS
VILLMAN
SILICON VALLEY
COMPEX
Official event organizer: ALPHA ONE
ISP Partner
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AI-154, Series of 2003

Seminar on comics creation

GOINGS ON

MANILA'S Ultimate Comics Creation Seminar is slated on April 5 and 6 at Megatrade Hall Conference Room B of SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Various giveaways and freebies will be handed out to seminar participants. Free film showings of comic-related videos will be shown. Call Eugene Perez at 727-5844 and 0917-9756196 or e-mail him at eugene@glasshousegraphics.com.

SUMMER COURSES. The Kodaly Society of the Phils. will hold summer courses: Design, Strategies and Materials for Integrating Music with other Subject Areas (Makabayan) on April 22-23, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Vocal and Choral Techniques in the Classroom, on April 24-25, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The Indigenization and Localization of the Music Education Program on April 28-May 9, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. All courses will be held at the UP College of Music, Diliman, Quezon City. Call at (02) 833-9003 or 831-7165.

ACTIVITIES. Dreamscape celebrates Easter with fun activities for the whole family. On April 20, guests are in for games galore from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the family center located at level 4 of Robinsons Galleria. Call 633-7641 local 192 to 198 or 631-7594.

PROGRAM. The Association of Booksellers for the Academe and the Professions lauds the program of the National Book Development Board and the Department of Education to address the lack of books and other instructional materials in the country and to produce good quality yet low-priced textbooks. On July 14-18, ABAP is holding its 7th Academic Bookfair, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at the University of the Philippines Bahay ng Alumni, Diliman, Quezon City. Call 925-4572.

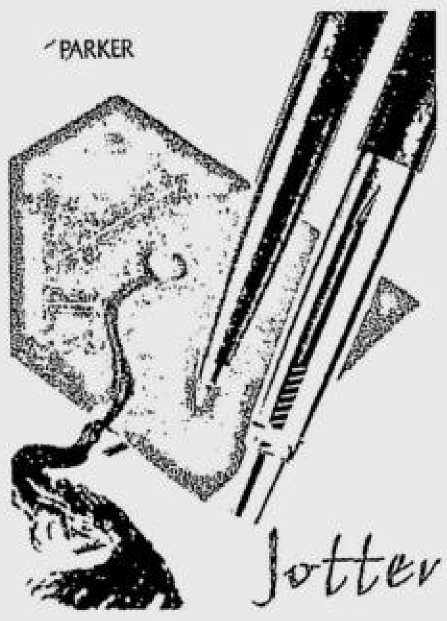
CONCERT. The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra concludes its concert season 2002-2003 with alto solo Agnes Barredo and an all-female choir in a concert entitled Majestic Mahler on April 11, 8 p.m. at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' Main Theater. Call 832-1125 and 832-3681.

PROGRAM. A bloc of 22 outstanding alumni of University of the Philippines called "GP22" is urging all alumni to vote for strengthening the UP Alumni Association (UPAA) in its ongoing election. GP22 calls for continuing reforms to make the UPAA a dynamic catalyst for UP progress.
Call Nelia Teodoro Gonzalez at 0917-5258846.

LEVEL UP! was recently launched at Hard Rock Cafe in Makati. Audiences were treated to food and drinks, fashion show, dating game, live entertainment and raffle prizes.

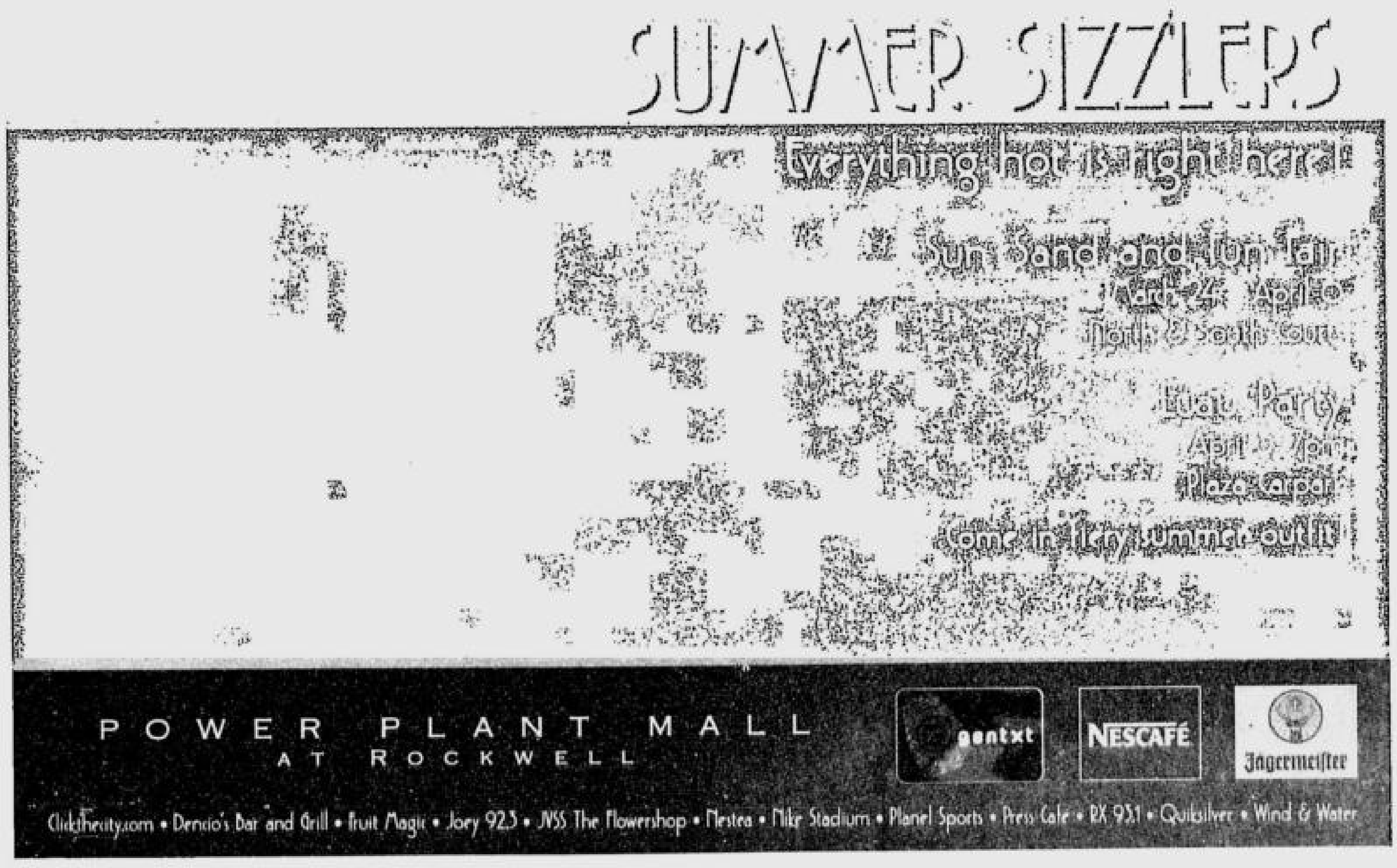
THE SINIGAYAN Festival, which showcases dancers attired in seashells or *sigays*, is one of the 21 festivities during the Pana-ad sa Negros Festival, ongoing until April 21 in Bacolod City.

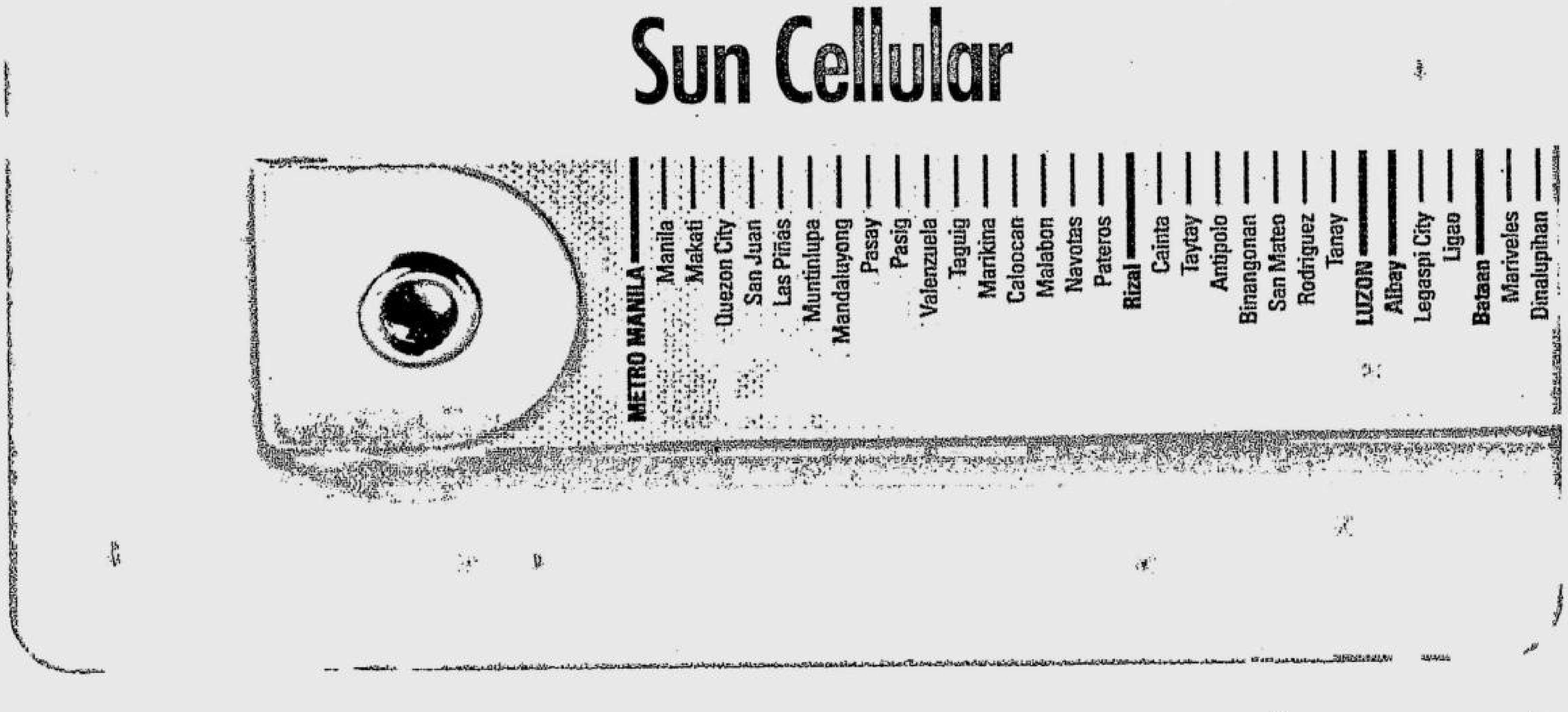
COCA-COLA Pavilion supervisor Claudia Ramos explains to young visitors of the Pavilion in Sta. Rosa, Laguna the various artworks depicting the rich heritage of Coca-Cola in the Philippines and the rest of the world. The Pavilion is open to everyone. Call (049) 534-1083 local 700.



WRITE STUFF FOR NEW GRADS

Join Parker's Graduation Gifts Galore raffle promo, ongoing until April 13. Every P200 worth of purchase (single or accumulated) of any Parker or Waterman pen entitles a customer to one raffle coupon. Winners will receive a computer laptop, wristwatches and P1,000 apparel gift certificates. Winning entries will be drawn on April 22.


SUMMER SIZZLERS
Everything hot is right here!
Sun, Sand and Fun Fair
North & South Court
Luau Party
Plaza Carpa
Come in fiery summer outfit
POWER PLANT MALL AT ROCKWELL
gentxt
NESCAFÉ
Jägermeister
Clickthecity.com • Dencio's Bar and Grill • Fruit Magic • Joey 92.3 • JVSS The Flowershop • Nestea • Nike Stadium • Planet Sports • Press Cafe • RX 93.1 • Quiksilver • Wind & Water

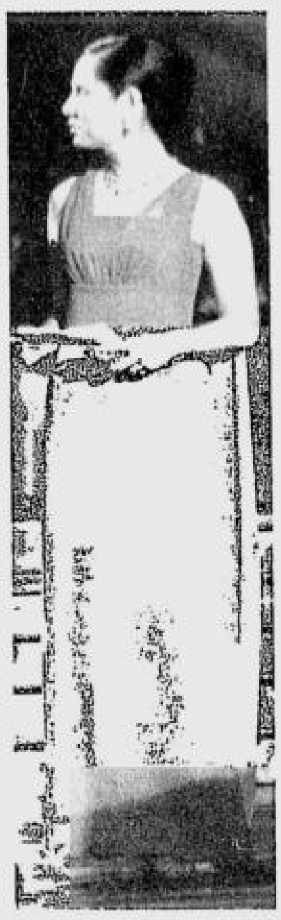

Sun Cellular
METRO MANILA
Manila
Makati
Quezon City
San Juan
Las Piñas
Muntinlupa
Mandaluyong
Pasay
Pasig
Valenzuela
Taguig
Marikina
Caloocan
Malabon
Navotas
Pateros
Rizal
Cainta
Taytay
Antipolo
Binangonan
San Mateo
Rodriguez
Tanay
LUZON
Albay
Legaspi City
Ligao
Bataan
Mariveles
Dinalupihan

PRETTY IN PINK. Ara Mina redeems herself in Marden Iglesias' strapless pale pink gown.

PUCKER PHASE. Not even the pretty Anne Curtis can get away with this unflattering iridescent taffeta gown.

TAKE THAT! Dina Bonnevie shows stars half her age how to look sexy and glamorous in Nono Palmos' 1950s-inspired black-and-white gown with fichu collar.

SCULPTURAL SLIP. Petite Chin-chin Gutierrez is weighed down by her Filipiniana-inspired piña lina gown's exaggerated details.



SEEING GREEN. Snooky Serna-Go is as chic as ever in an emerald chiffon column by Nono Palmos.

HAIR TODAY. Pops Fernandez sports curly top to complement the confusing details of her chiffon gown.

COLOR HER SUMMER. Lorna Tolentino looks yummy in Paul Cabral's high-waisted, strapless gown with a sash cut on the bias.

SHORT ORDER. Michelle Quizon goes for a wrap-around skirt fit for the rainy days.

All that trash!

Maricel Soriano shamelessly apes Catherine Zeta-Jones's number in 'Chicago,' Gretchen Barreto shamelessly shows off her Bvlgaris, and the Film Academy shamelessly puts its vile foot forward

SHE HAD IT COMING! Maricel Soriano only has herself to blame in this unflattering beaded dress as she does a Catherine Zeta-Jones.

From page E1

What was supposed to be a celebration of the film industry's most outstanding feats (or more likely the lack of it) during the past year quickly degenerated to pure and simple farce the minute Maricel Soriano emerged onstage-and began aping Catherine Zeta-Jones—with matching bob, dancing shoes and a bulging tummy—in her show-stopping "All That Jazz" number in the film version of "Chicago."

Please tell us our ears were playing tricks on us. Except for an anemic rendition of the Bob Fosse-inspired livewire choreography, everything about the entire production rang hollow, including Maricel's voice. Catherine should demand royalties!

Sure, everybody loves a recent Oscar winner, but why on earth would a people who style themselves as heirs to one of the oldest film industries in Asia showcase an excerpt from a production number as alien to Manila as the Windy City?

And that fully beaded number wreaked havoc on Maricel's, uh, healthy figure. If she continues to balloon any further, we won't be surprised if she returns onstage next year as the hefty Mama Morton.

Bejewelled Gretch

Perhaps, the whole world by now knows Gretchen Barretto has Bvlgari pieces supposedly by the box load (that can be gleaned from the way she has been seen all over town lately dripping with jewelry of all shapes, sizes and makes). But we don't see the point why she had to display several sets of sparklers and slip into two gowns by Inno Sotto in one night.

No, she didn't host the show, nor was she a recipient of a special prize, although she was indeed named "Face of the Night."

As if the shawl and drop earrings weren't enough, Gretchen was unable to resist the urge to display her chunky bracelets, brooches, glittery hair accents and, at one point, an eye-popping necklace made of what

DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER. Gretchen Barretto goes for drop-dead glamour in Inno Sotto's black-and-white column.

COSTUME CHANGE. Not content with all that jewelry, the diva takes a dive in a gown with a busy skirt and too-tight bodice.

measures up

Orani
Hermosa
Batangas
Batangas City
Lipa City
Tanauan
Nasugbu
Sto Tomas
Bauan
Balayan
Calaca
Taal
Benguet
Baguio City
Bulacan
San Jose del Monte City
Malolos City
Meycauayan
Sta Maria
San Miguel
Baliuag
Hagonoy
Marilao
Bocaue
Calumpit
Plaridel
San Ildefonso
San Rafael
Guiguinto
Bulacan
Balagtas
Obando
Pandi
Bustos
Angat
Paombong
Cagayan
Tuguegarao
Camalaniugan
Sanchez Mira
Camarines Norte
Isabela
Jose Panganiban
Camarines Sur
Naga
Iriga
Catanduanes
Virac
Cavite
Bacoor
Dasmariñas
Imus
Cavite City
Silang
Gen Mariano Alvarez
Tanza
Gen Trias
Tagaytay City
Carmona
Naic

All that trash!

looked like diamonds and emeralds.

The semi-retired actress looked divine in a strapless black-and-white column with matching black shawl as she glided past photographers in the lobby. It was only a matter of time, however, before she overdid the diva act dressed this time in a strapless lime green gown as she dished out one Broadway song after another ("Memories"? "Last Night of the World"? Again, don't ask us why).

Gretchen's attempt to shock and awe was a fashion blitzkrieg if there ever was one: studded earrings, necklace, bracelet, extended shawl and appliqués and flounces on the skirt. Not only did the gown look too busy, the fit on the chest area didn't exactly flatter the one-time sexy star.

One more quibble: What was with Gretchen's pair of "Incredible Hulk" eyebrows? We don't want to be mean, but they looked like black patches only the late Jim Henson's muppets would be caught dead with.

Wrong hairstyle

Pops Fernandez's wrong hairstyle further weighed down Randy Ortiz's chiffon halter with a series of small bibs. It wasn't exactly one of the designer's best efforts, and Pops didn't help improve it by wearing long, curly locks. Aside from making the gown look less busy, a soft, clean chignon would have been more apt for her age.

If anything, the elegant Snooky Serna-Go showed her contemporaries a thing or two about dressing. She looked polished with her hair up, in keeping with the emerald green, empire-cut chiffon number by Nono Palmos. The Grecian-inspired gown had a pair of willowy extensions that draped Snooky's shoulders, cascading all the way down to her back. It didn't hurt that she wore a pair of earrings and a necklace.

Dina Bonnevie also looked smashing in Palmos' black-and-white gown with a fichu collar that harked back to the 1950s.

Lovely

The ever-lovely Dina is no longer as slim as she used to be, and she knows it. Palmos' move to draw attention away from her waist and instead focus on her chest worked wonderfully. Eat (*bulaga*) your heart out, Vic Sotto!

Lorna Tolentino is another woman whose taste and looks get better as she ages. Paul Cabral put a number of twists to the strapless, empire-cut gown Lorna wore. For one, the unusual combination of hot pink, orange and canary yellow was quite tricky. It celebrated the colors of summer, all right, but such a combination was quite difficult to pull off at an evening affair, especially in the Philippines where formal wear is often limited to black.

And the canary yellow sash Cabral draped on Lorna's lower bodice down to the hem of her orange skirt was cut on the bias for a streamlined look. The accent might seem like an ordinary sash tied around the bodice, but Cabral swore that it was stitched to make it look more seamless.

Thank goodness not all is lost in the dimming world of local show biz. A slimmer Sharon Cuneta, who wore a black off-the-shoulders column also by Cabral, pulled off the evening's biggest surprise.

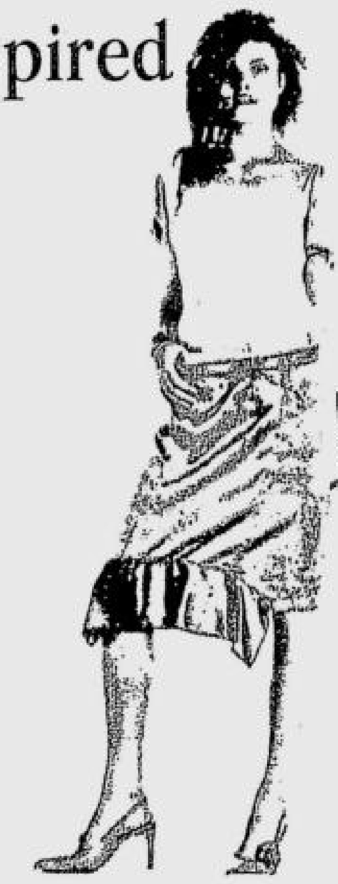
Made of a special jersey, the gown had fitted sleeves and bodice that surprisingly hid the Megastar's bumps and bulges.

Swarovski beads, mini-butterfly brooches and a pair of bright-colored sashes, again stitched and cut on the bias, adorn an otherwise simple outfit. If anything, the detail made Sharon slimmer and taller.

And unlike Maricel, Sharon sang old as-in-Viva-vintage-but-original Filipino music, which she dedicated to Lifetime Achievement Awardee Susan Roces. After all that earlier trash, er, jazz, there's a glimmer of hope yet for the ailing movie industry.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

Olympic-inspired collection

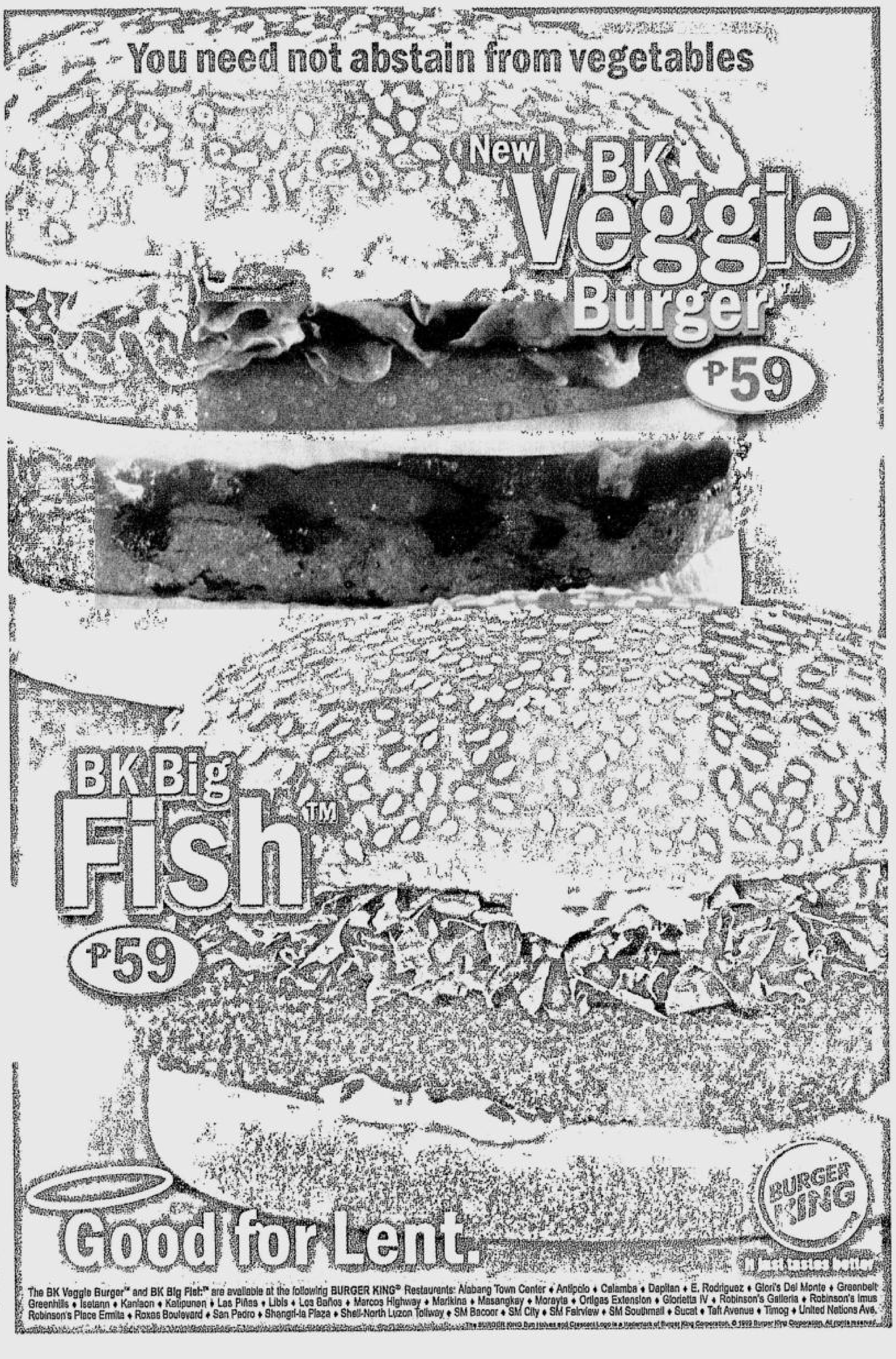


THE LATEST installment of the Spring/Summer 2003 collection of Diesel is appropriately dubbed Run for Glory. Still consistent with the Olympics theme introduced early Spring, Run for Glory displays Classical Sport elegance, influenced by Indian atmospheres.

The "Old Time" sporting mood gives life to irregular, rough applications and graphics; competition numbers (marathon-racer like) with Indian-style lettering and symbols, overlap each other, resulting in an unusual mix of sponsorship customization and details. Red, white and blue stripes are combined throughout the delivery. Yarn-dyed plaids and ribbed or stretch trim details are some of the leitmotifs of the collection.

Diesel is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists Inc., with stores located at Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center and Robinsons Galleria.

RUN for Glory—Diesel's Spring/Summer 2003 collection

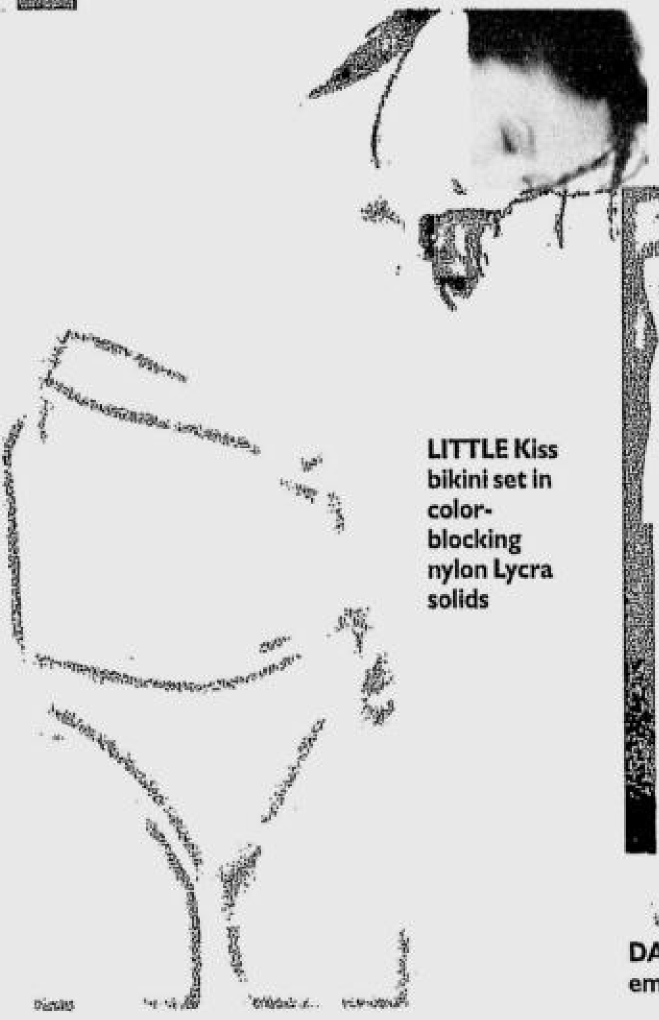


The BK Veggie Burger™ and BK Big Fish™ are available at the following BURGER KING® Restaurants: Alabang Town Center ♦ Antipolo ♦ Calamba ♦ Dapitan ♦ E. Rodriguez ♦ Glori's Del Monte ♦ Greenbelt Greenhills ♦ Isetann ♦ Kamias ♦ Katipunan ♦ Las Piñas ♦ Libis ♦ Los Baños ♦ Marcos Highway ♦ Marikina ♦ Masangkay ♦ Morayta ♦ Ortigas Extension ♦ Glorietta IV ♦ Robinson's Galleria ♦ Robinson's Imus Robinson's Place Ermita ♦ Roxas Boulevard ♦ San Pedro ♦ Shangri-la Plaza ♦ Shell-North Luzon Tollway ♦ SM Bacoor ♦ SM City ♦ SM Fairview ♦ SM Southmall ♦ Sucat ♦ Taft Avenue ♦ Timog ♦ United Nations Ave.
The BURGER KING Bun Halves and Crescent Logo is a trademark of Burger King Corporation. © 1999 Burger King Corporation. All rights reserved.

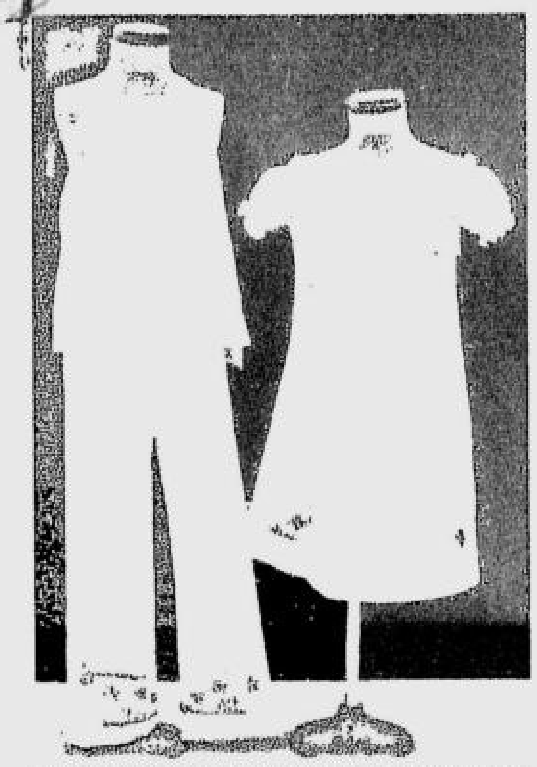
to your expectations.

Trece Martirez | Alfonso | Indang | **Ilocos Norte** | Laoag City | Dingras | Solsona | **Ilocos Sur** | Vigan | Santa | **Isabela** | Santiago | Alicia | San Mateo | Roxas | Tumauini | San Manuel | **La Union** | San Fernando | Sto Tomas | Agoo | Bauang | **Laguna** | San Pedro | Sta Rosa | Calamba | San Pablo City | Sta Cruz | Nagcarlan | **Masbate** | Masbate | Paete | **Nueva Ecija** | Manaoag | Talavera | Gapan | Muñoz | Cabiao | Cuyapo | **Nueva Viscaya** | Bayombong | Solano | **Pampanga** | Angeles City | San Fernando | Mabalacat | Mexico | Arayat | Guagua | Magalang | **Pangasinan** | San Carlos City | Dagupan City | Urdaneta City | Lingayen | Calasiao | Alaminos | San Fabian | Umingan | Pozzorubio

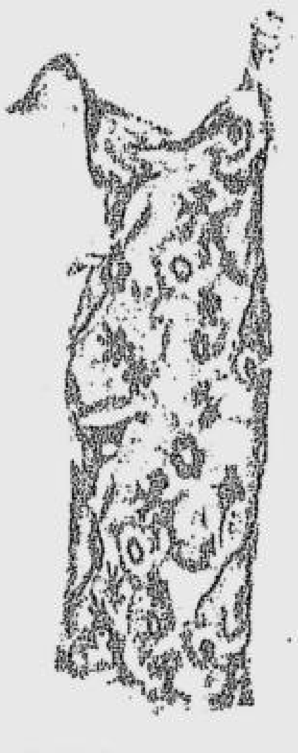
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
LIFESTYLE
FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 200



LITTLE Kiss bikini set in color-blocking nylon Lycra solids



DAINTY children's wear with smocking and embroidery details from Jam



FLORAL-PRINTED silk dress from BCBG

TWO-PIECE swimwear with floral appliqué and embroidery from Undercolors of Benetton

See you at Saint-Tropez

Rustan's summer lines take their inspiration from the French summer hideaway

By Jasmine W. Payo

AS the weather heats up, it's time to bring out once again your summer wardrobe of board shorts, *sarongs* and bikinis.

For designers, summer is an important event in the fashion calendar. It's the season to introduce a new list of must-haves, from the hottest day-to-night look to travel wear and sexy beach apparels.

Recently unveiling its summer collection, Rustan's shows us how to look fresh during these hot days.

According to Rustan's team of designers, this year's collection takes inspiration from summer destination Saint-Tropez, France. And true enough, these trend watchers have taken the cue from the pastel-colored buildings of the chic vacation spot, as the dominant colors of their summer wear include various shades of blue, pink, tomato red and citrus orange.

Florals and paisleys

The summer look won't be complete though without the bright flowers and cute paisley prints. Whites and denims have also become staples, providing a cool and breezy look.

Aside from the bright look, this season also assures comfort, with plenty of light and cool fabrics such as cotton, voile and linen.

Like most summer collections, Rustan's focuses on resortwear and swimwear, with Benetton and Little Kiss featuring bikinis in bold colors and flirty cuts.

Just as fun and sexy are the tops and summer dresses with pleats and ruffles from Jill and BCBG, and the interesting embroidery details of Oleg Cassini's line.

Day-to-night casuals, whether for travel or a beach night-out, are provided by Sinequanone, To the Max and Criselda Lontok.

For a more easy-going style for men, Salt features tops with embroidery details. MR also offers casuals and swimwear, while U shirts go sporty with numbered shirts inspired by basketball and soccer jerseys.

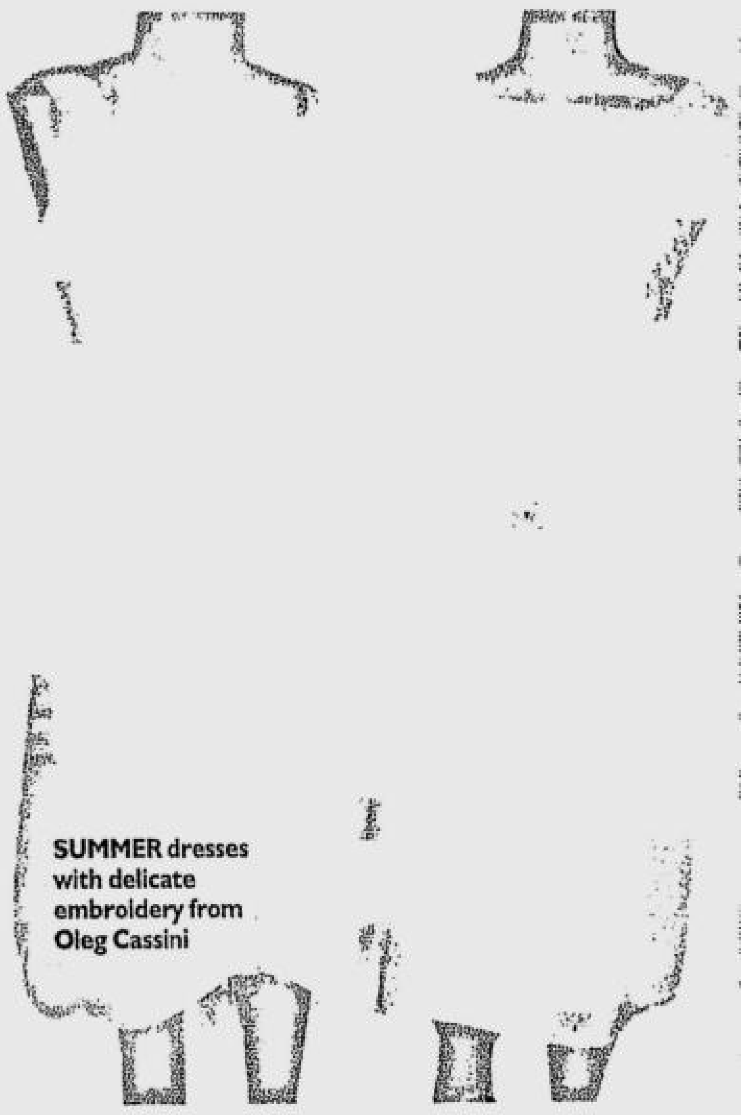
Children's wear from Jam are also highlighted with dainty dresses that come in printed and embroidered floral designs, and Hawaiian-inspired shirts and shorts.

Rustan's, of course, is not leaving out other fashion must-haves. Matching the trendy summer clothes are the sandals and flip flops, beach bags, and accessories such as trendy belts, bangles and necklaces.

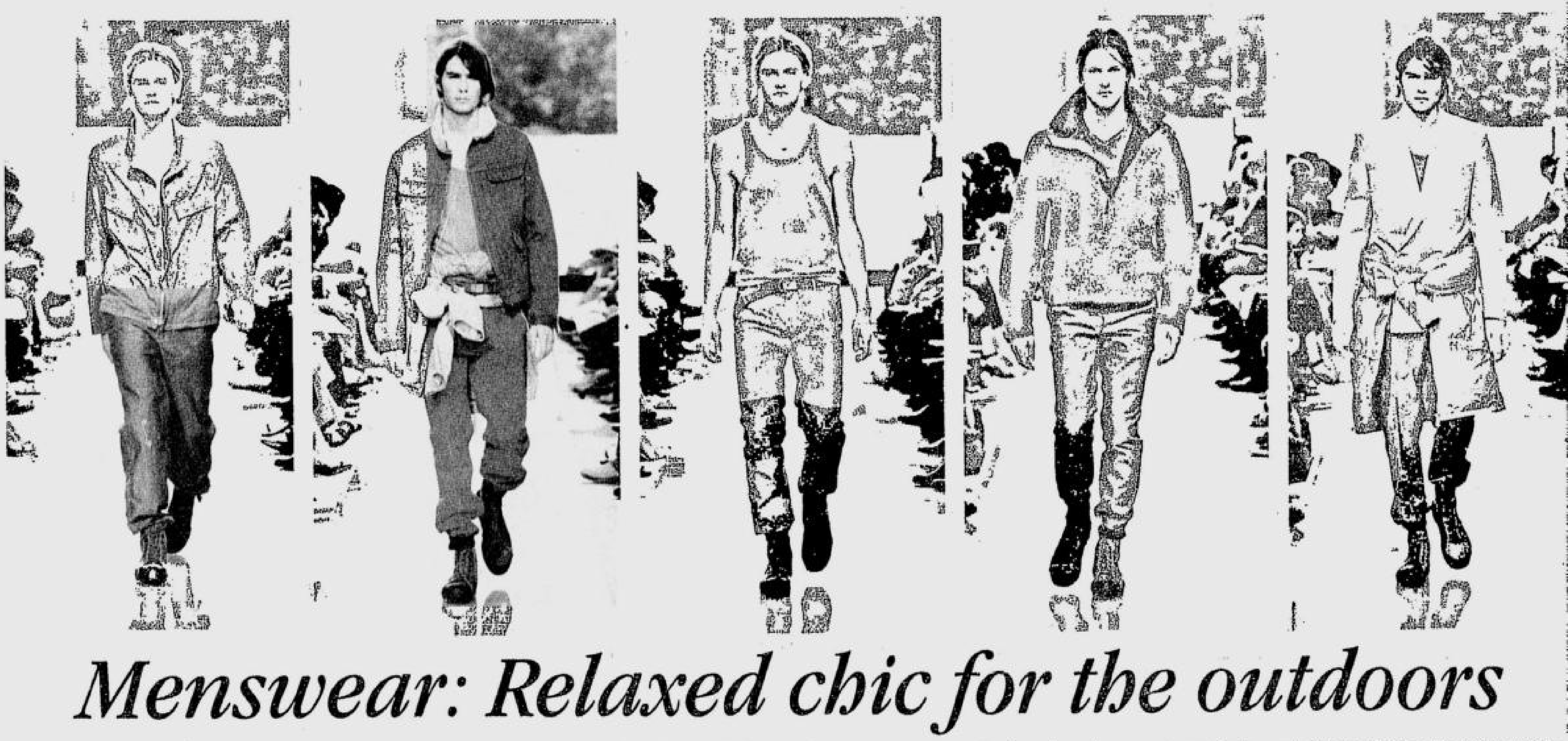
So, are you ready to sizzle this summer?

FRUITY colored tops paired with denim from Jill

LONG-SLEEVED cotton shirt with paisley print



SUMMER dresses with delicate embroidery from Oleg Cassini



Menswear: Relaxed chic for the outdoors

LOUIS Vuitton takes relaxed chic outdoors with its 2003 Spring/Summer Menswear collection. The Vuitton man, in the style of an elegant adventurer straight from the pages of National Geographic, relaxes in designs influenced by trekking wear. Ultimate comfort is procured from the luxury of natural, lightweight and cool materials such as jersey, cotton canvas, silk, etc., or protective fabrics like buffalo hide.

The collection, a blend of mineral shades that oscillate between glacier blue and slate gray interspersed with splashes of amethyst, orange and ochre, is structured around five themes.

Multicolored patchwork designs feature a mixture of bold colors such as mauve, blue and orange, and mineral hues such as sky blue and stone gray.

The key designs of the collection include a knitted sweater sporting wide stripes in a multicolored melange of the latest shades and a pair of jeans.

This season sees a comeback of the cotton jersey sleeveless top, which punctuates the collection with a real outdoor feel. Cotton boxer shorts and trousers fitted at the ankle with rib trim are accessorized with pressed studs.

For protection against the weather, wide trousers, soft-hooded sweatshirts or jackets in buffalo hide provide another high point of the collection. Teamed up with softer articles, in matching tones of mauve, the look immediately takes on a lighter tread.

This season's selection of sporty jackets includes cotton canvas parkas for a more easy-going style and features a host of practical details such as removable collar-hoods, waistbands with drawstrings or more decorative designs and special effects using zippers and press studs.

Airy sweaters in white or gray cotton are adorned with set-in detail on the shoulders and flat pockets plastered across the tummy. Flyaway silk windcheaters as well as jackets and bomber jackets styled in technical cottons add a complementary summer touch to the collection.

Cool colors such as white, parma and light gray offer breezy refreshment to these designs.

In the urban department, we find a multitude of denims in various shades of indigo with jackets featuring flat, press-stud pockets, trousers with rib trim, leather belts with geometric motifs in embroidered or woven cotton.

This idea of relaxed chic is reiterated in a selection of comfortable sweaters and zip-up cardigans in mottled, pastel cashmere or pixel-effect blue-gray.

Wool trousers and jackets featuring fine tennis stripes in different tones of gray are teamed up as separates. With just one button, the jackets are either single- or double-breasted and worn over straight-cut, tapered trousers. These suits, worn with two-tone glacier and orange goose down jackets or with a windcheater tied at the waist, radiate decidedly informal and relaxed allure.

Finally, the ID tags, which were featured heavily in the Winter 2002 collection, have been replaced by new pyrit cube pendants engraved with the LV initials, and the reporter's bags have mad way for new-look Monogram sleepin bag, worn over the shoulder.

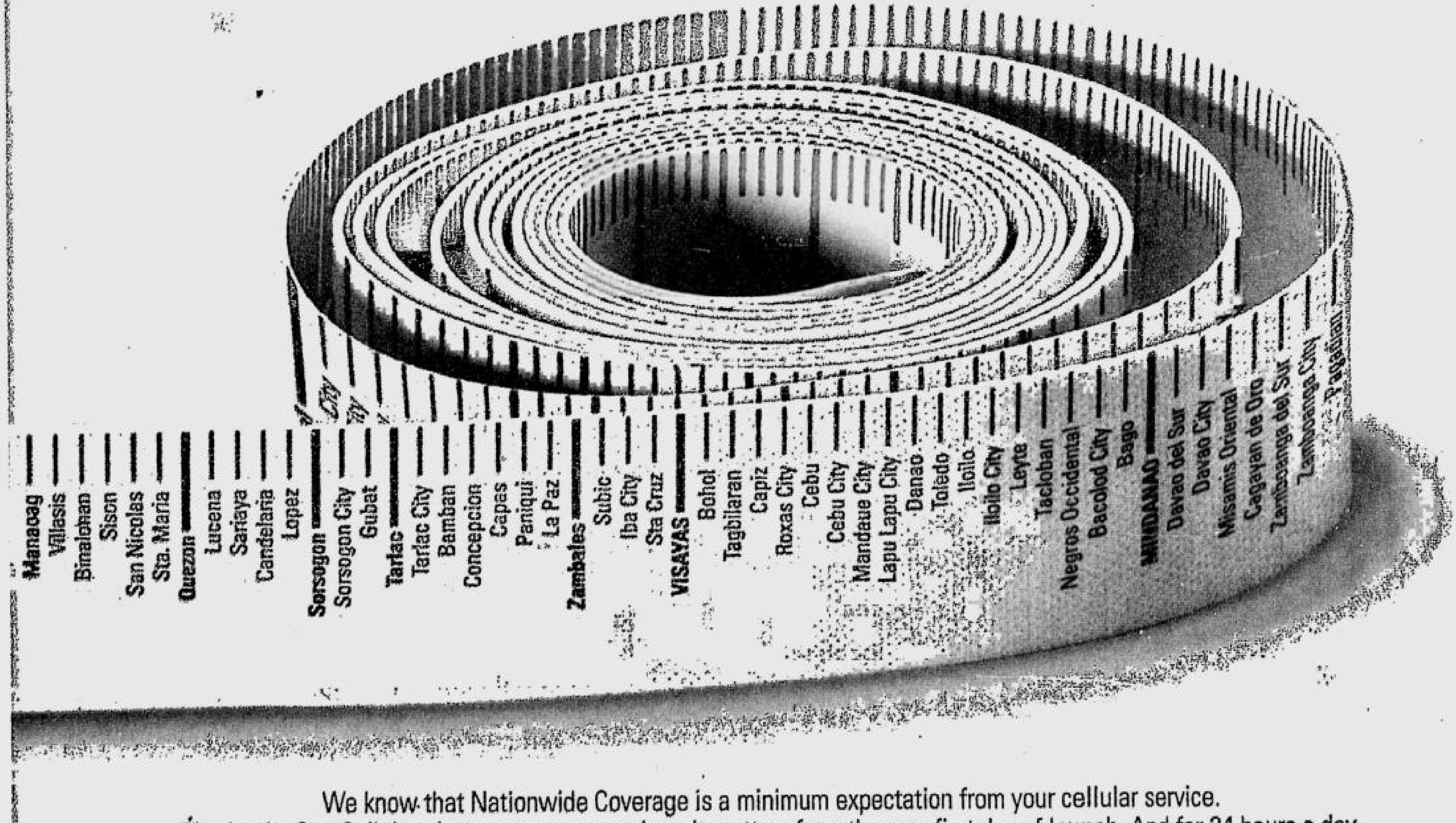
The hands-free culture is widely explored this season with details like la tice-work pockets and pendant ke holders, among other features. Detai that are carried through right down t the flexible trekking shoes styled in cal skin suede and two-tone cotton canvas

Louis Vuitton is located on the G/F o 6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

SUN CELLULAR

Everything Important is Under the Sun

That's why we give you Nationwide Coverage from Day 1.


Manaoag
Villasis
Binalonan
Sison
San Nicolas
Sta. Maria
Quezon
Lucena
Sariaya
Candelaria
Lopez
Sorsogon
Sorsogon City
Gubat
Tarlac
Tarlac City
Bamban
Concepcion
Capas
Paniqui
La Paz
Zambales
Subic
Iba City
Sta Cruz
VISAYAS
Bohol
Tagbilaran
Capiz
Roxas City
Cebu
Cebu City
Mandaue City
Lapu Lapu City
Danao
Toledo
Iloilo
Iloilo City
Leyte
Tacloban
Negros Occidental
Bacolod City
Bago
MINDANAO
Davao del Sur
Davao City
Misamis Oriental
Cagayan de Oro
Zamboanga del Sur
Zamboanga City
Pagadian

We know that Nationwide Coverage is a minimum expectation from your cellular service. That's why Sun Cellular gives you coverage where it matters from the very first day of launch. And for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, Sun Cellular cell sites are continuously rising from north to south. It's an accelerated roll-out of the newest GSM cell sites available, updated, future-proof. Giving you clear calls and coverage where and when it matters to you.

SM City MANILA | SM City BICUTAN | SM City DAVAO

sale

3 days only

Apr 4 • 5 • 6

up to

50% off

great selections mallwide

mall hours

SM CITY MANILA
SM CITY BICUTAN
10am - 10pm

SM CITY DAVAO
9am - 10pm

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1028 Series of 2003

SM
SM SUPERMALLS

Danielle Steel
The Cottage
P329.00
National Book Store

It's open season for fashion

Manila's Fashion Week trains the spotlight on accomplished and young designers alike, as well as RTW collections

ALL the fashion capitals in the world—from Milan, Paris, New York and London to Hong Kong—devote an entire week to their fashion forecasts for spring/summer and fall/winter as interpreted by the biggest and best names in fashion design.

In Manila, the Fashion Week has been a much-awaited event every year since its debut in 1997. Produced by Runway Productions and CalCarrie International Models Philippines, under the overall concept, supervision, management and direction of Joey Espino and Audie Espino, the objective of Fashion Week is to educate Filipinos about the latest style trends being adopted by the global industry.

Fashion Week 2003 brings together for the first time the country's well-respected fashion designers led by Ben Farrales, dean of Philippine fashion. The other participating designers are members of the Filipino Designers Group (FDG), Fashion Design Council of the Philippines (FDCP), Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines (FDAP), the Cebu and Davao designers, plus other equally talented fashion designers who won in international competitions and designers who have gained popularity and success in their own right all these years.

Now imagine 70 fashion designers pooling together their creative energy and ingenuity in interpreting what will be the best for the summer season. Here is the schedule of shows:

April 4, 6 p.m., Glorietta Activity Center: The gala opening night featuring designers Ben Farrales, Edgar Allan, Eddie Baddeo, Mike de la Rosa, Larry Espinosa, Arnold Galang, Nolie Hans, Gerry Katigbak, Ole Morabe, Bobby Novenario, Efren Ocampo, Frederick Peralta, Lito Perez, Barge Ramos, Renee Salud, Edgar San Diego and Lulu Tan Gan.

April 6, 6 p.m. Glorietta Activity Center: The Ayala Center Fashion Choices and Sony Ericsson—Baghera, Fine, Janylin, Folded & Hung and U-Rustan's.

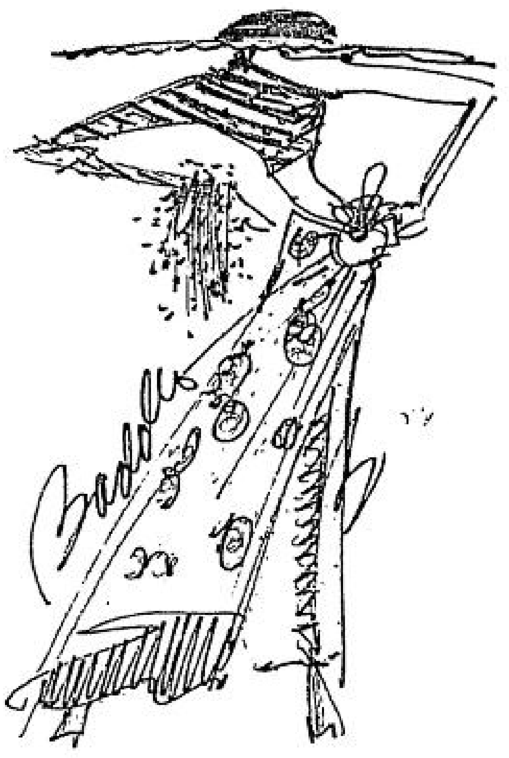
April 7, 6 p.m., Glorietta Activity Center: The Regional Fashion Designers Collection—Cebu designers Mario Colmenares, Jude Elardo, Junjun Escario, Arcy Gayatin, Oj Hofer, Protacio, Jojo Romoff; Davao designers Aztec Barba, Dodiie Batu, Edgar Buyan, Sherwin Magtulis, Benjie Panizales, Garimon Roferos, Erie Sapaula and Allen Villena.

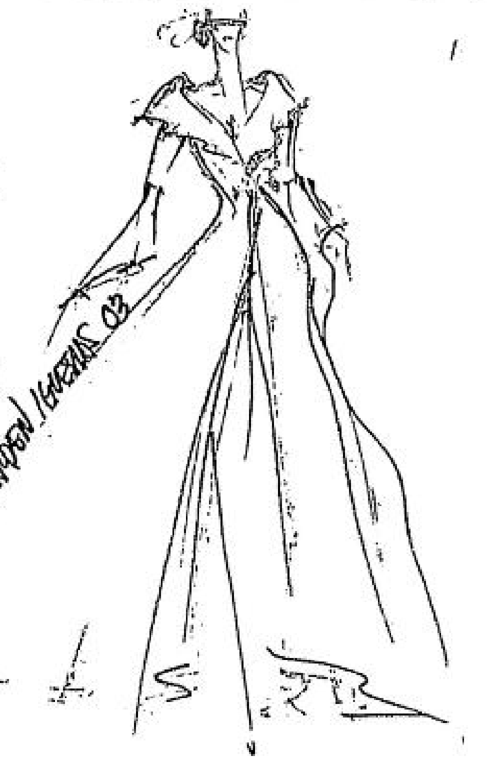
April 8, 6 p.m., Glorietta Activity Center: The Young Avant Garde Collection—Ariel Agasang, Avel Bacudio, Edgar Buyan, Kenneth Chua, Lizanne Cua, Melvin Lachica, Tippi Ocampo, Alex Pigao, L.Z. Punzalan, James Reyes, Joey Samson and Mel Vergel de Dios. A special feature of the Adidas "Heritage" collection will be interpreted by the participating designers.

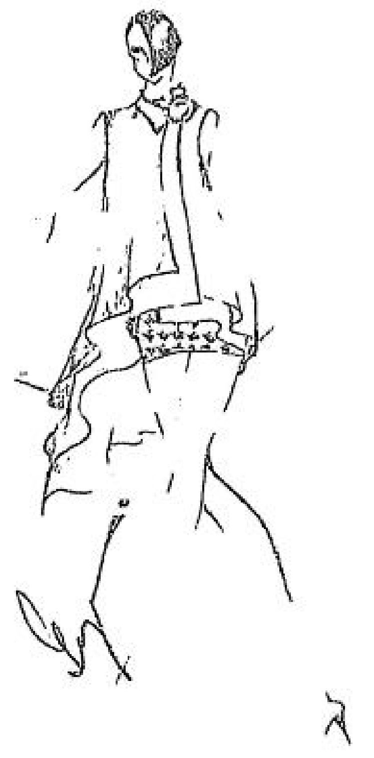
April 10, 8 p.m., Hotel Inter-Continental Manila Grand Ballroom: The Grand Allure Collection, featuring the designs of Vic Barba, Alex Bitong, Bong Garcia, Jeanne Goulbourn, Katrina Goulbourn, Pepsi Herrera, Lyle Ibañez, Marden Iglesias, Peter Lim, Edgar Madamba, Anthony Nocom, Fanny Serrano, Carla Sibal, Edwin Tan and Ernie Uy.

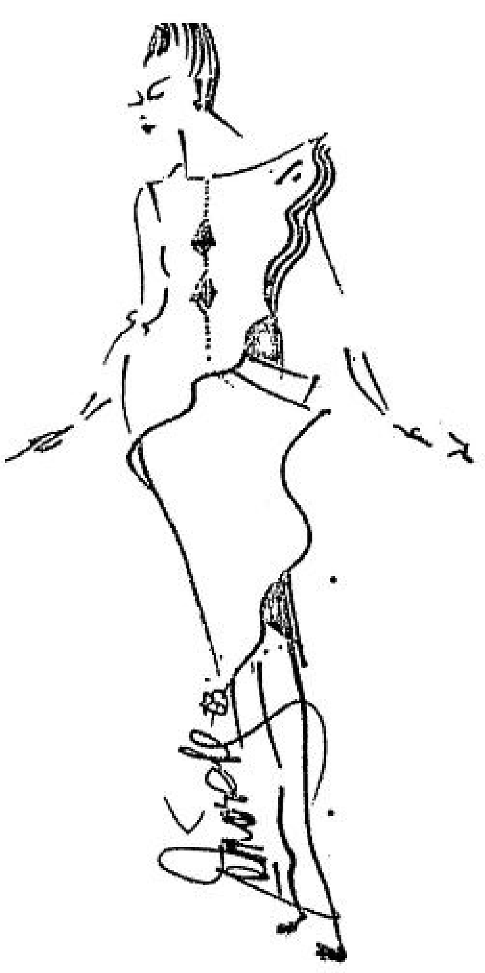
April 12, 9 p.m., Nova Lounge, Rockwell Power Plant: CalCarrie Models—the launch of the new website and Soulstice dance party.

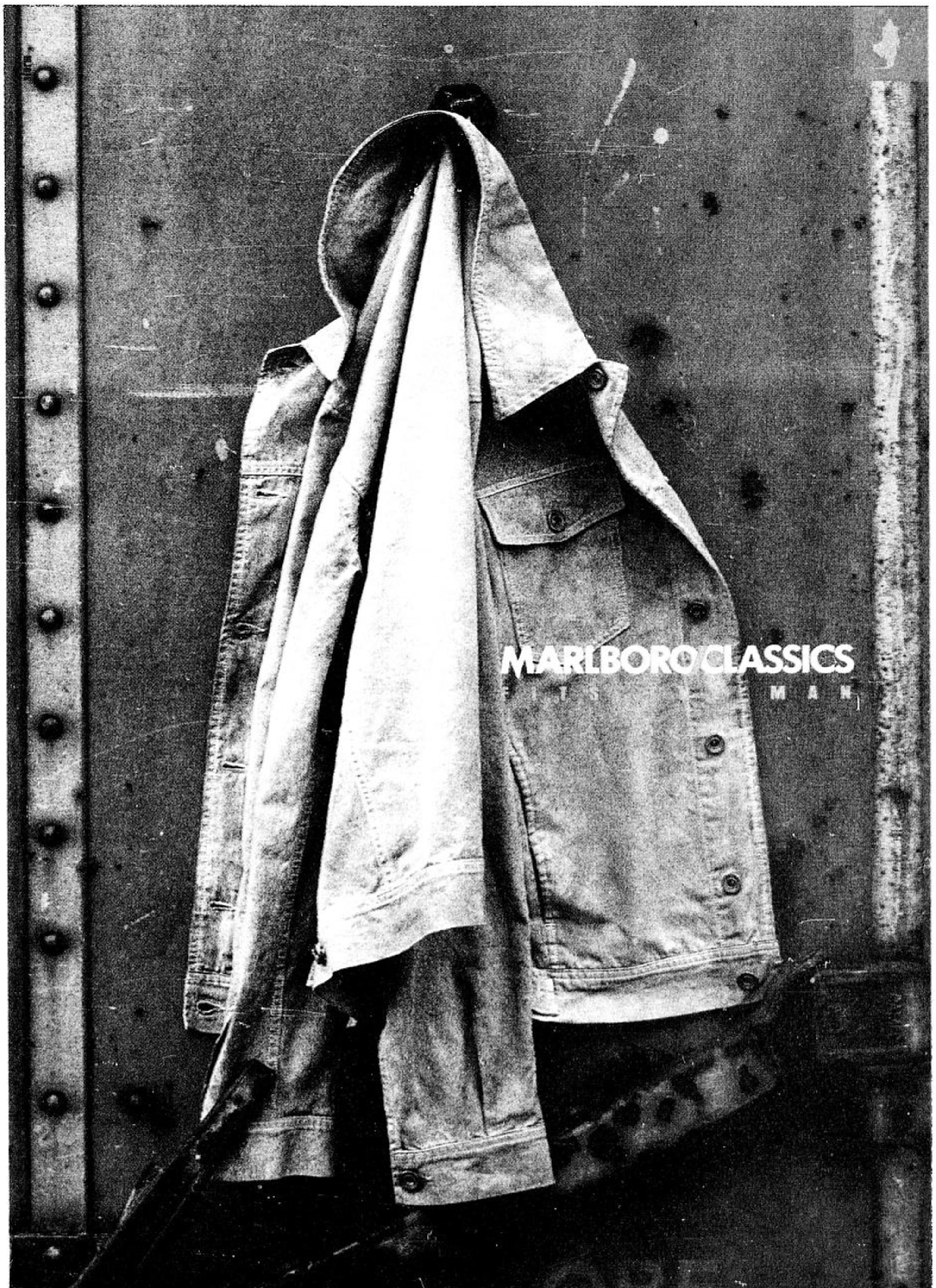
Other participating retail fashion brands will also present their Spring/Summer 2003 collection on April 5—Levi's; April 9—Pink Soda and Power Generation Forecast featuring Lacoste and Marks & Spencer; April 11—Jag; April 12—Penshoppe; and April 13—Wrangler.



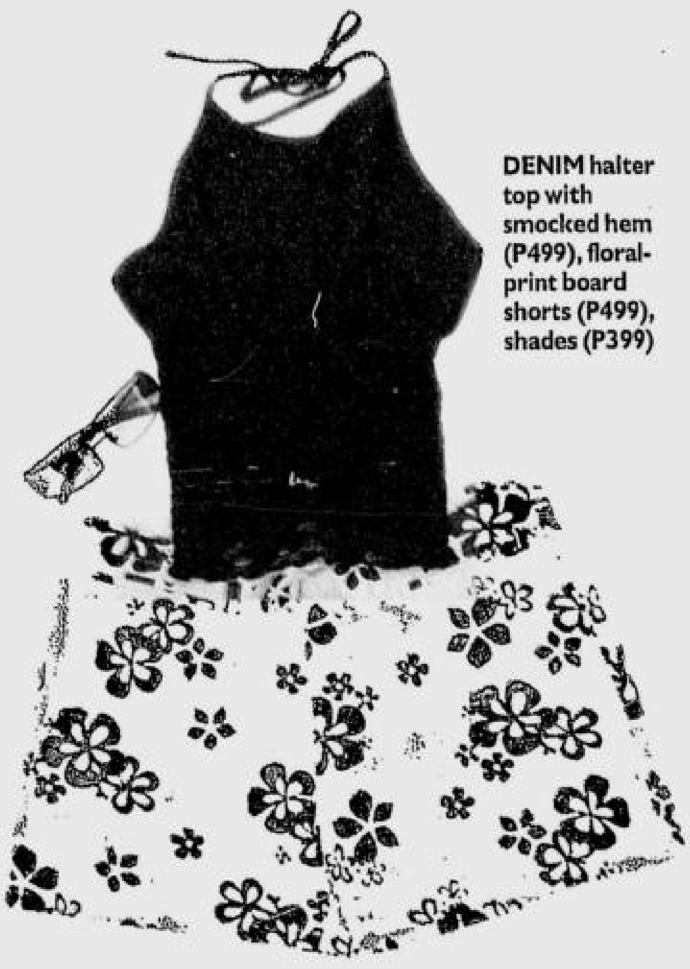






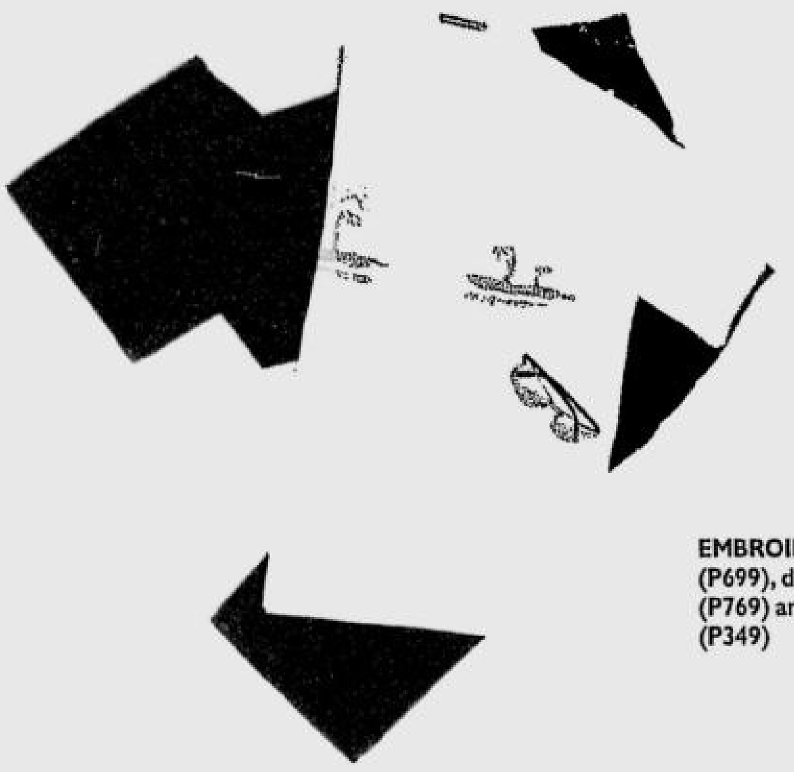


SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL / GLORIETTA 2, AYALA CENTER / RUSTAN'S MAKATI / SM MEGAMALL B / ALABANG TOWN CENTER / ROBINSONS PLACE, MANILA / FESTIVAL SUPERMALL / POWER PLANT MALL, ROCKWELL CENTER.
Exclusively Distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc.



DENIM halter top with smocked hem (P499), floral-print board shorts (P499), shades (P399)

STRIPED tank (P269), shorts (P479) and khaki tote (P199)



EMBROIDERED shir (P699), denim jeans (P769) and shades (P349)

In a summer state of mind

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

Penshoppe's new collection remains true to its tradition of straightforward and down-to-earth styles, but always with an edge

AGE, truly, is just a state of mind. And there's no better proof than Penshoppe, still as youthful and hip as when it first came out 17 years ago. If anything, the brand is getting even hipper and cooler year after year.

Penshoppe is synonymous with casual street clothing—very classic but never without a twist. The styles are straightforward and down-to-earth, but always with an edge. The Spring-Summer 2003 collection, previewed in this page, evidently does not veer away from that image.

Young babes get to be Mandy Moore—or at least dress like her—in smocked or button-down tops, collared or cotton tees, and summery tanks that they can pair with denim skirts, capris, plain khaki or floral print shorts.

Of course, there's an endless choice of denim jeans—pintucked, laced-up, boot-cut, flared—because who doesn't love denims?

Dudes can be as hot as Brad Turvey in tees, tees and more tees—striped, printed, appliqued. Youthful roomy shirts come in graduated colors, checks or embroidered with summery palm patterns. There are denim jeans in various finishes and washes, casual and board shorts and the oh-so-utilitarian cargo pants.

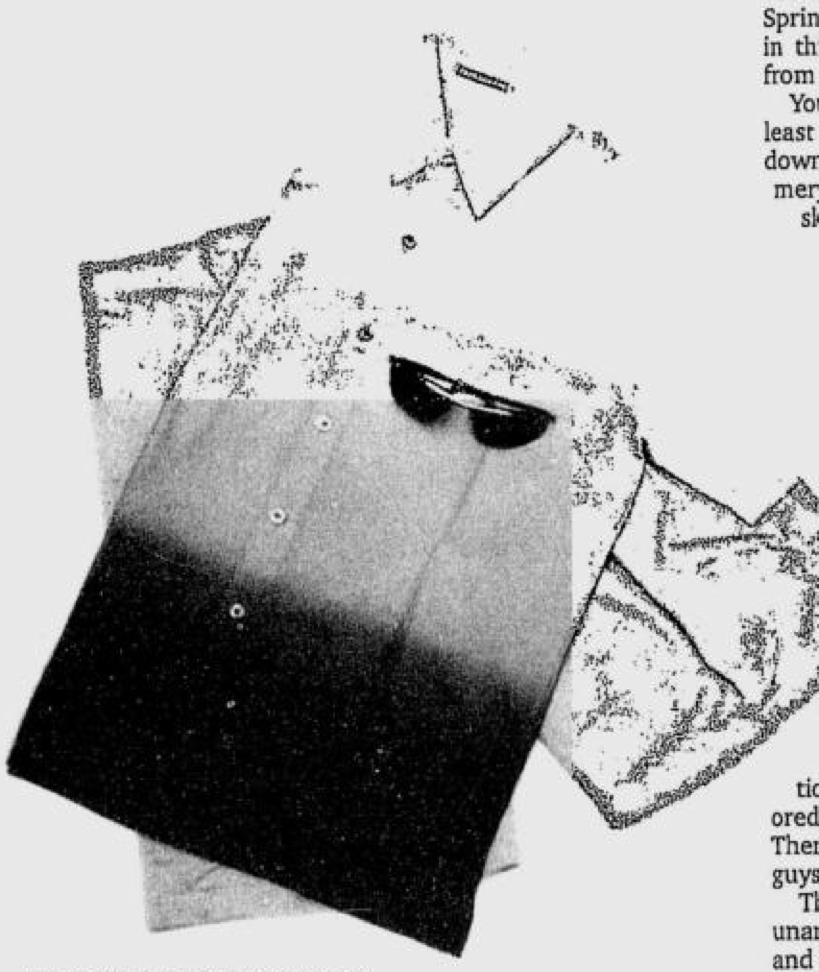
Penshoppe covers a full circle with its accessories collection. It has a selection of the coolest eyewear with multicolored lenses to counter the summer glare. There are messenger bags and caps for the guys, and functional canvas totes for the gals.

This is the time of year when its cool and unarguably sensible to lose the stuffy shoes and walk the walk with comfy flipflops. Penshoppe's versions come in solid colors or with funky prints and patterns.

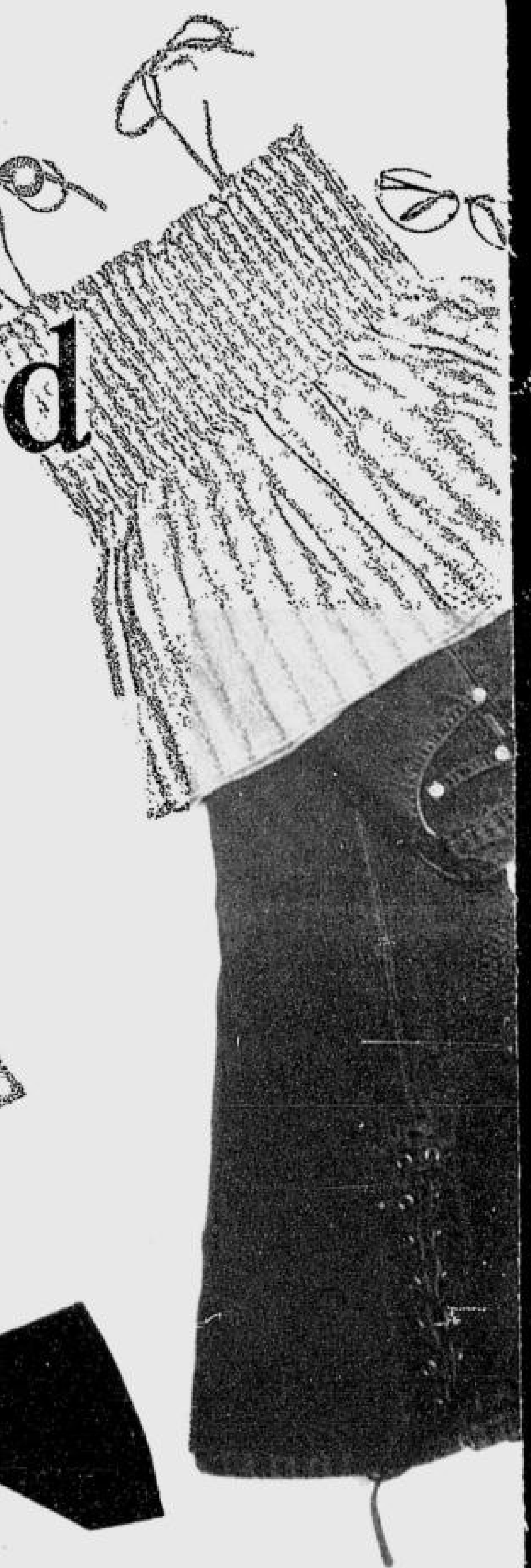
Like Penshoppe, stay hip and young—or at least dress like you are.

Penshoppe has 82 free-standing boutiques, and also has outlets in the department stores of major malls nationwide. Some of the items in this page are now available; the rest will come out in April and May.

PATCHED tee (P349) and khaki cargo pants (P749)

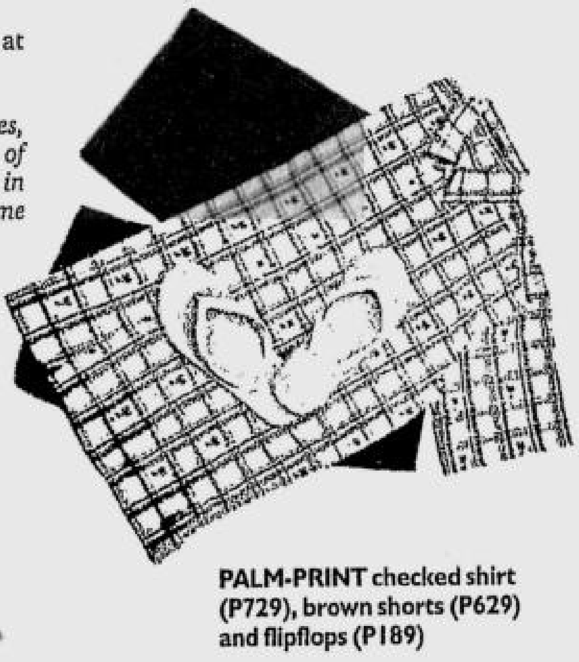


YELLOW-ORANGE shirt (P399), khaki shorts (P589) and shades (P399)

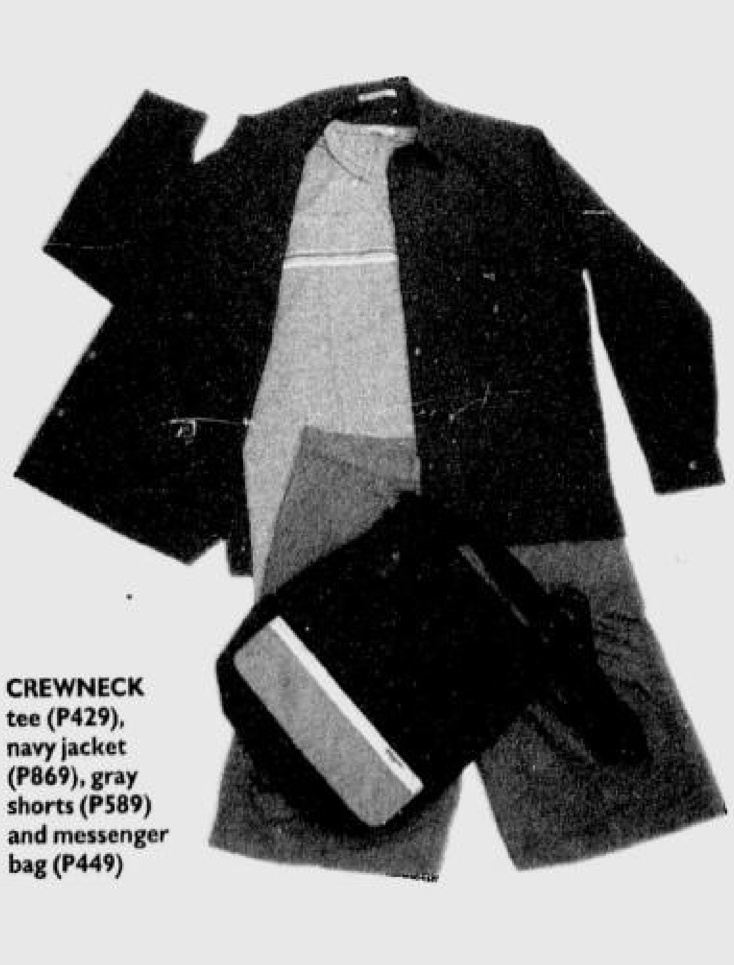


SPAGHETTI-STRAP
smocking (P349), flar
with laced-up hem (P
shades (P399)

CAP-SLEEVED tee (P349), boot-cut denim jeans with pintucks (P729), flipflops (P209)



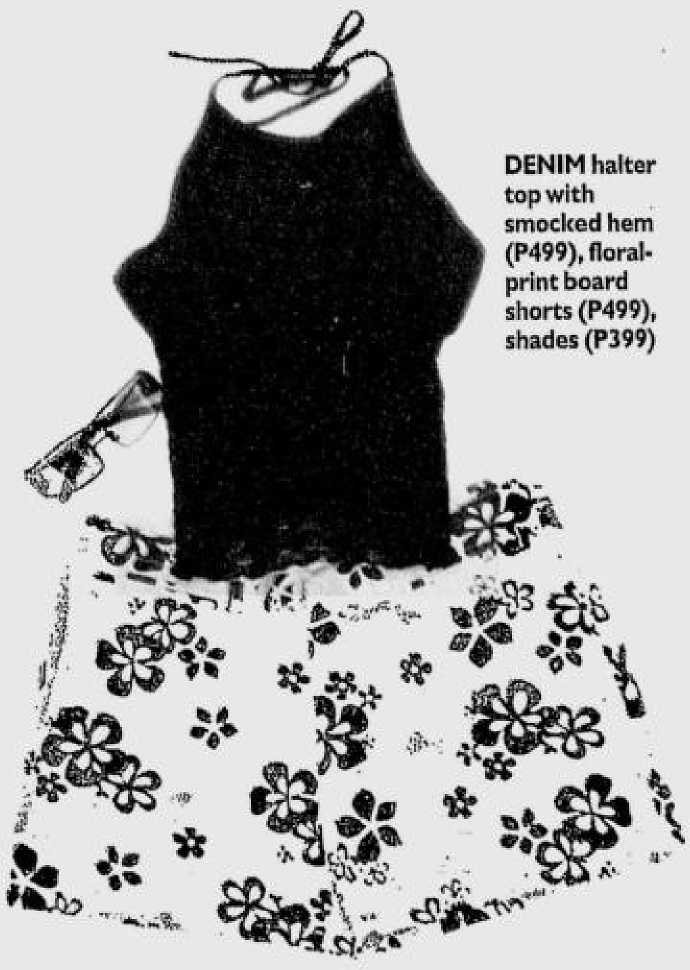
PALM-PRINT checked shirt (P729), brown shorts (P629) and flipflops (P189)



CREWNECK tee (P429), navy jacket (P869), gray shorts (P589) and messenger bag (P449)

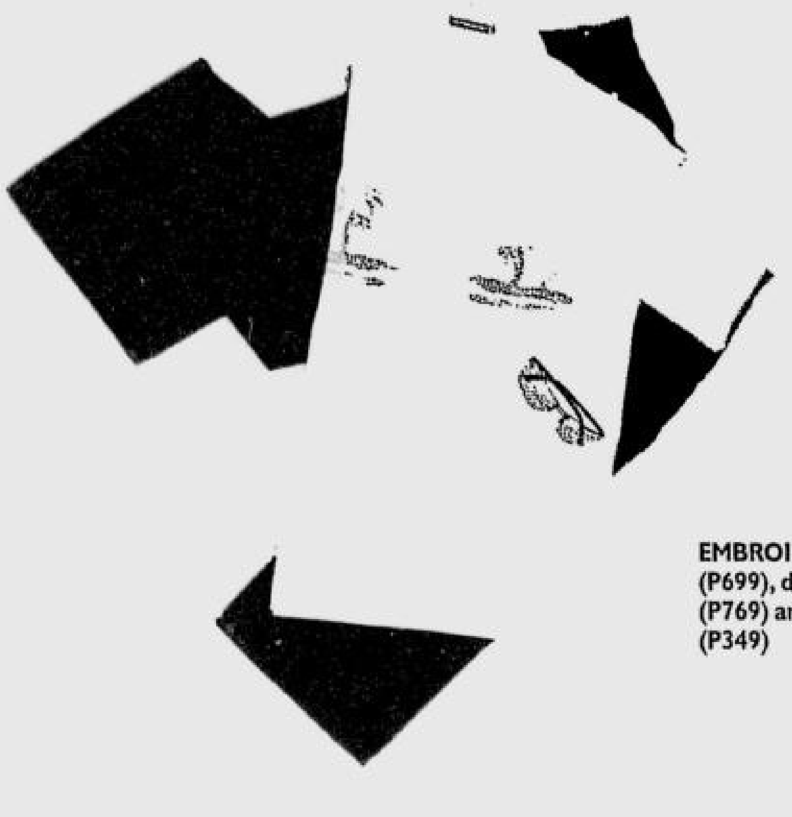
STRIPED shirt with collar (P349), belted denim jeans with pintucks (P759), black tote (P199) and white wristbands (P149)

CREWNECK tee (P269), button-up shirt, denim skirt (P549), flipflops (P209)



DENIM halter top with smocked hem (P499), floral-print board shorts (P499), shades (P399)

STRIPED tank (P269), shorts (P479) and khaki tote (P199)



EMBROIDERED shir
(P699), denim jeans (P769) and shades (P349)

PATCHED tee (P349) and khaki cargo pants (P749)

In a summer state of mind

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

Penshoppe's new collection remains true to its tradition of straightforward and down-to-earth styles, but always with an edge

AGE, truly, is just a state of mind. And there's no better proof than Penshoppe, still as youthful and hip as when it first came out 17 years ago. If anything, the brand is getting even hipper and cooler year after year.

Penshoppe is synonymous with casual street clothing—very classic but never without a twist. The styles are straightforward and down-to-earth, but always with an edge. The Spring-Summer 2003 collection, previewed in this page, evidently does not veer away from that image.

Young babes get to be Mandy Moore—or at least dress like her—in smocked or button-down tops, collared or cotton tees, and summery tanks that they can pair with denim skirts, capris, plain khaki or floral print shorts.

Of course, there's an endless choice of denim jeans—pintucked, laced-up, boot-cut, flared—because who doesn't love denims?

Dudes can be as hot as Brad Turvey in tees, tees and more tees—striped, printed, appliqued. Youthful roomy shirts come in graduated colors, checks or embroidered with summery palm patterns. There are denim jeans in various finishes and washes, casual and board shorts and the oh-so-utilitarian cargo pants.

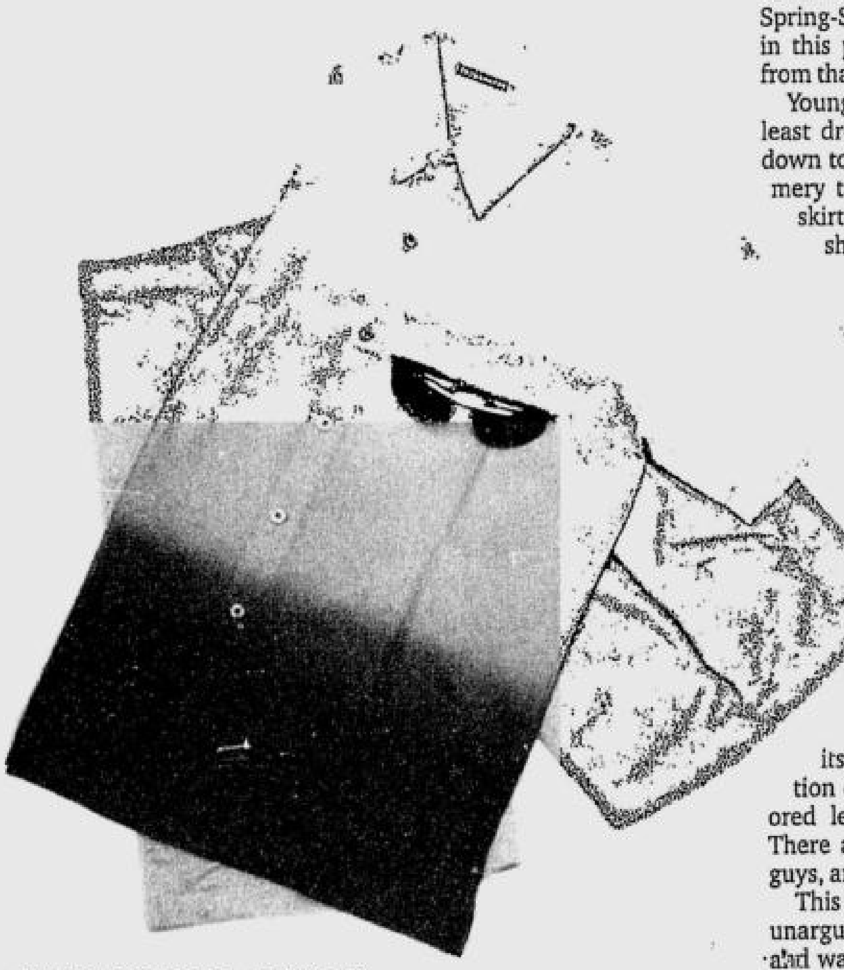
Penshoppe covers a full circle with its accessories collection. It has a selection of the coolest eyewear with multicolored lenses to counter the summer glare. There are messenger bags and caps for the guys, and functional canvas totes for the gals.

This is the time of year when its cool and unarguably sensible to lose the stuffy shoes and walk the walk with comfy flipflops. Penshoppe's versions come in solid colors or with funky prints and patterns.

Like Penshoppe, stay hip and young—or at least dress like you are.

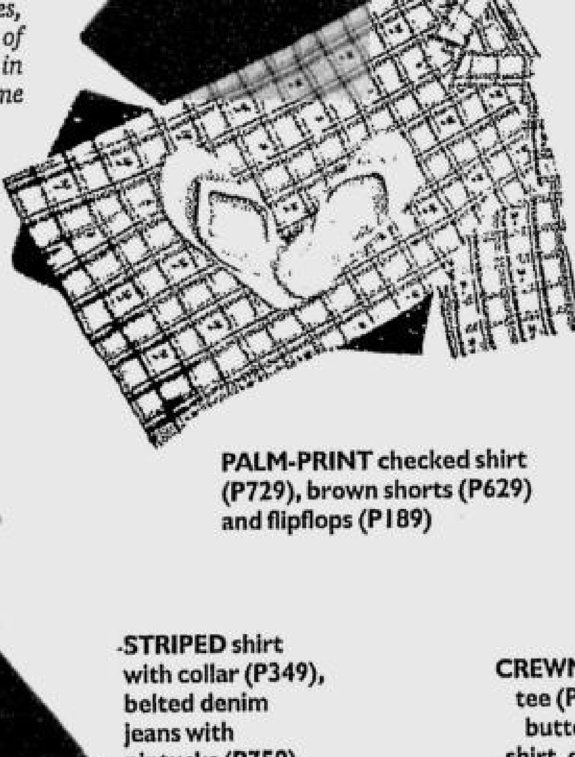
Penshoppe has 82 free-standing boutiques, and also has outlets in the department stores of major malls nationwide. Some of the items in this page are now available; the rest will come out in April and May.

SPAGHETTI-STRAP
smocking (P349), flar
with laced-up hem (P
shades (P399)

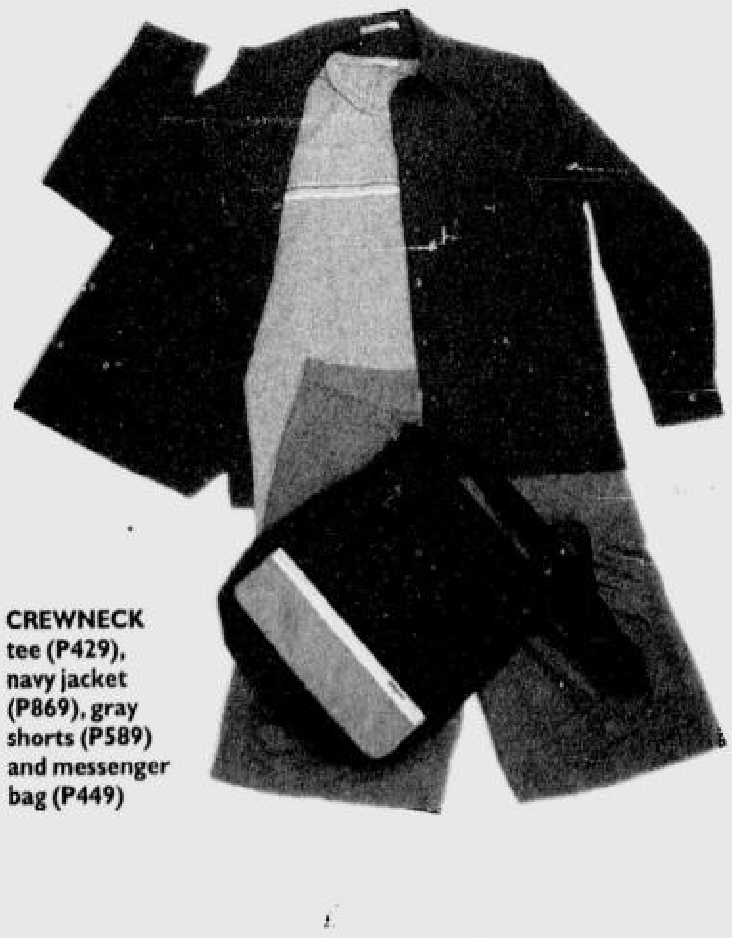


YELLOW-ORANGE shirt (P399), khaki shorts (P589) and shades (P399)

CAP-SLEEVED tee (P349), boot-cut denim jeans with pintucks (P729), flipflops (P209)



PALM-PRINT checked shirt (P729), brown shorts (P629) and flipflops (P189)



CREWNECK tee (P429), navy jacket (P869), gray shorts (P589) and messenger bag (P449)

STRIPED shirt with collar (P349), belted denim jeans with pintucks (P759), black tote (P199) and white wristbands (P149)

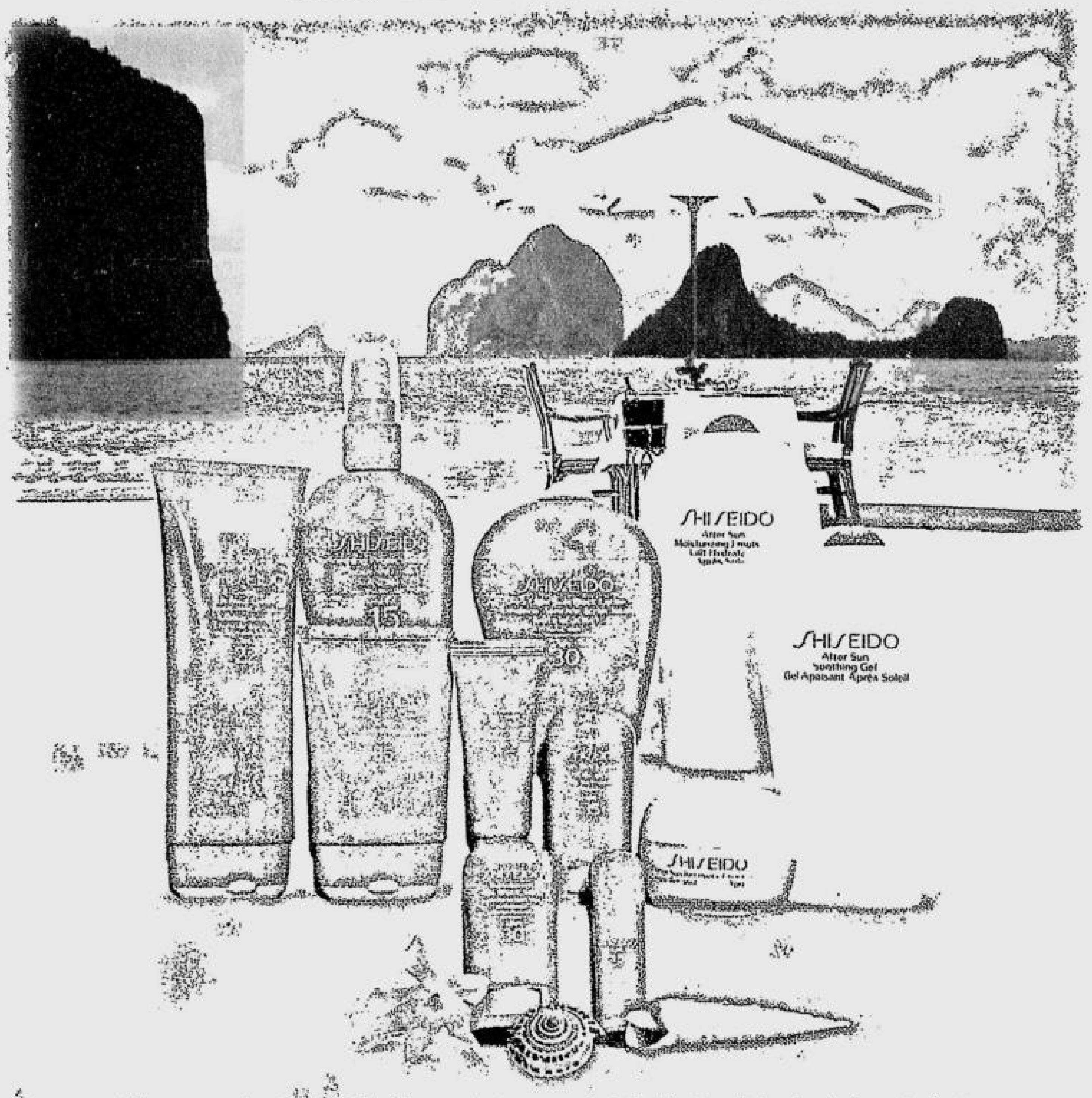
CREWNECK tee (P269), button-up shirt, denim skirt (P549), flipflops (P209)

WHITE shirt with pintucks and gartered hem (P589), floral-print capris (P659), denim tote (P199)

SLEEVELESS shirt (P299) and navy board shorts (P589)

BLUE tee with printed back (P329), denim jeans (P769), blue flipflops (P189) and cap (P449)

'ED top with
ed denim jeans
599), brown lens



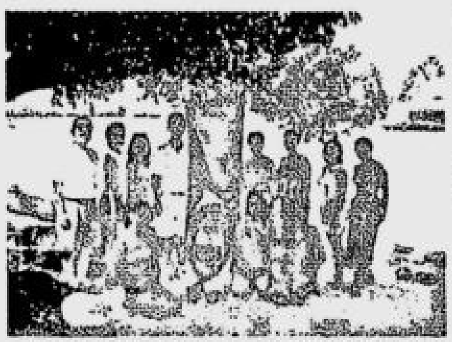
Celebrate Summer
with
SHISEIDO
and El Nido Resorts

For every P500 purchase of a SunCare product; get one raffle ticket for a chance to win a trip for two to the luxurious El Nido Resorts in Palawan. Bask in the sun and enjoy the protection of Shiseido's complete Suncare line.

The promo is applicable at all Shiseido outlets: Glorietta 4, Power Plant, SM North Edsa, SM Megamall, SM Makati, SM Harrison Plaza, Watson's The Podium and The Landmark. Promo period is from April 1 to May 31, 2003.
Deadline for entries for Raffle 1 will be on April 30, with raffle draw on May 2, 2003 and deadline for Raffle 2 will be on May 31, 2003 with raffle draw on June 2, 2003.

SHISEIDO EL NIDO RESORTS

DOH-BFAD PERMIT NO. 0226 SERIES 2003



Shiseido
Celebrates Summer with the SunCare Line at El Nido Resorts

Shiseido Press Trip to El Nido Resorts

To celebrate summer with its SunCare line, Shiseido recently brought selected journalists to El Nido Resorts in Palawan. The sun-filled three-day trip was spent exploring the wonders of nature at El Nido. The group stayed at rustic Miniloc Island Resort on the first night, and moved to the elegant Lagen Island Resort on the second night.

To protect their delicate skin while sunbathing, Shiseido provided the group with some products from the SunCare line: Translucent Sun Block Stick (SPF 30) P 1,200 ,Sun Block Face Cream (SPF 35) P 1,350 , Gentle Sun Block Cream (SPF 22) P 1,195 , Refreshing Protective Spray (SPF 12) 1,350 , Sun Block Compact (SPF 32) P 1,895 , Sun Protect Eye Cream (SPF 15) P995 , Ultra Light Sun Block Lotion (SPF 30) P 1,395 , Sun Block Stick (SPF 35) P 1,100 , Sun Block Lip Treatment (SPF 15) P 1,100. They also had a chance to try the After Sun Moisturizing Emulsion (P 1,150), After Sun Recovery Face Cream (P 895) and After Sun Soothing Gel (P 895).

This summer, Shiseido has an exclusive tie-up with El Nido Resorts. Every P500 purchase from the SunCare line entitles the customer to one (1) raffle ticket for a trip for two to El Nido. Two raffle prizes will be given away. The first draw will be on May 2, 2003 (Lagen Island) and the second draw will be on June 2, 2003 (Miniloc Island). Promo period is from April 1 to May 31, 2003.

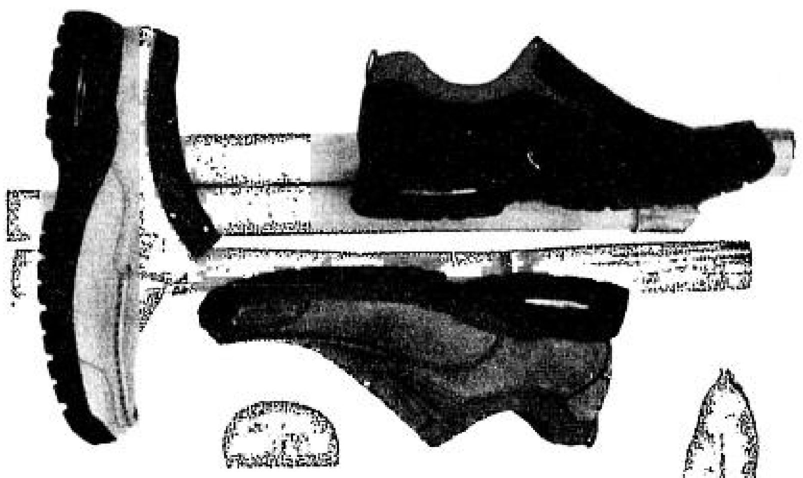
ADVT.

Comb Through
Fabulous Summer Finds

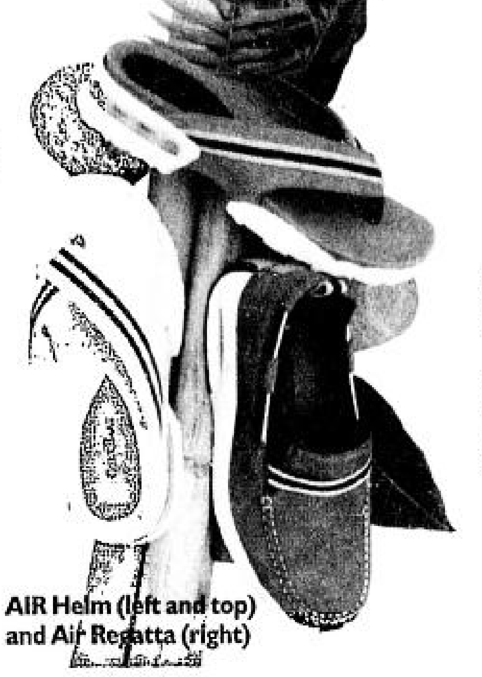
at the **Summer Bangketa Fair** of **Greenhills Shopping Center.**

Don't get tangled in a time warp. Get a new look this summer at GSC's Summer Bangketa Fair, With over 1,000 stalls and extended shopping hours 'til 10 P.M. on Fridays and Saturdays, you'll surely find everything you need to look this summer's best.

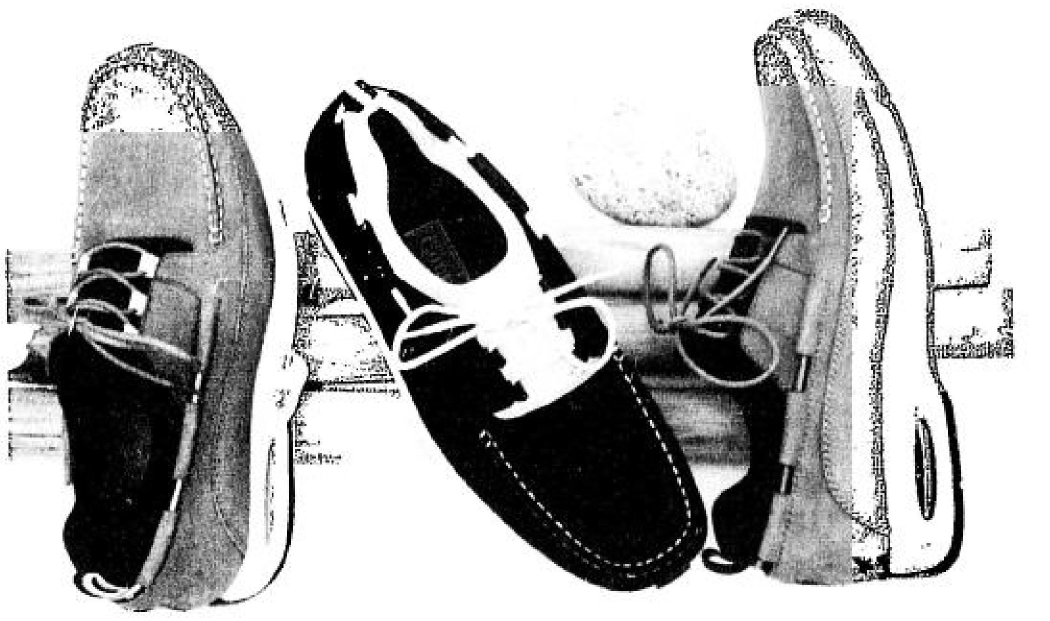
SHOPPING CENTER
ORTIGAS & COMPANY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
www.greenhills.com.ph



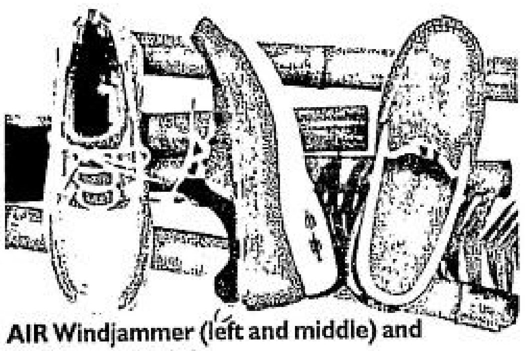
AIR Taos (left) and Air Tahoe (top and bottom)



AIR Helm (left and top) and Air Regatta (right)



AIR Spinnaker (in various color schemes)



AIR Windjammer (left and middle) and Air Clipper (right)

Cool King Cole's summer line

THE RUNWAY reports from Paris, New York and Milan are signaling two major trends for summer. One shows bared shoulders, pretty prints, demure, well-put-together '50s and '60s looks and lots of very feminine, naked shoes with straps hither and thither. Think Julianne Moore as the elegantly turned out suburban housewife in "Far From Heaven." The other offers a workman-like casualness, with cargo pants and jumpsuits paired with comfy old-style sneakers, moccasins, loafers and slippers.

Cole Haan's Spring-Summer 2003 collection is right in step with the trends with a range of styles, from slim, sexy, dainty shoes to casual flats and mocs for the new utilitarian look. Its old-style artisan aesthetic (each shoe is handcrafted by skilled craftsmen using only the highest quality leather and materials) and casual luxury perfectly fit the new fashion mood.

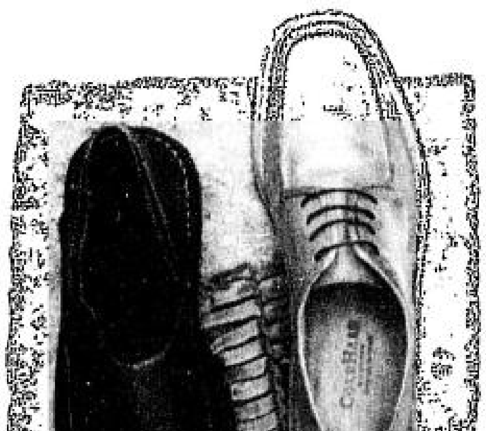
Old-style elegance underpins Tina (from the City collection), a pointy stacked-heel calfskin mule with crisscrossed strap details on the upper. Show off shapely ankles and calves and well-pedicured toes with Pamela (also from the City collection), a delicate knotted sandal in fine calfskin, with polished leather sole and combination leather stacked heel.

Casually luxurious, to go with combat pants with multiple pockets or zippered jumpsuits, are styles from Cole Haan's smartly-designed Nike Air collection, which combines Nike's patented Air Technology and precision cushioning with vaunted Cole Haan handcraftsmanship. Air Windjammer is a winsome boat shoe in water-resistant nubuck, with Lycra collar for comfort and fit and lightweight siped rubber sole. Air Clipper is an equally nifty boat mule in water-resistant nubuck that comes in salt and orange and bright green and white.

Men's footwear is also plump with retro influences (for style guide, check out Leonardo di Caprio in "Catch Me If You Can") and urban moxie. Cole Haan's Spring-Summer 2003 menswear collection fits the bill, with styles like Wilshire, a classic oxford in handcrafted calfskin with flexible stitched construction and leather sole and heel; and Air Zephyr, handcrafted monkstrap shoe in fine calfskin, with Nike Air Technology and dual-density, non-slip sole.

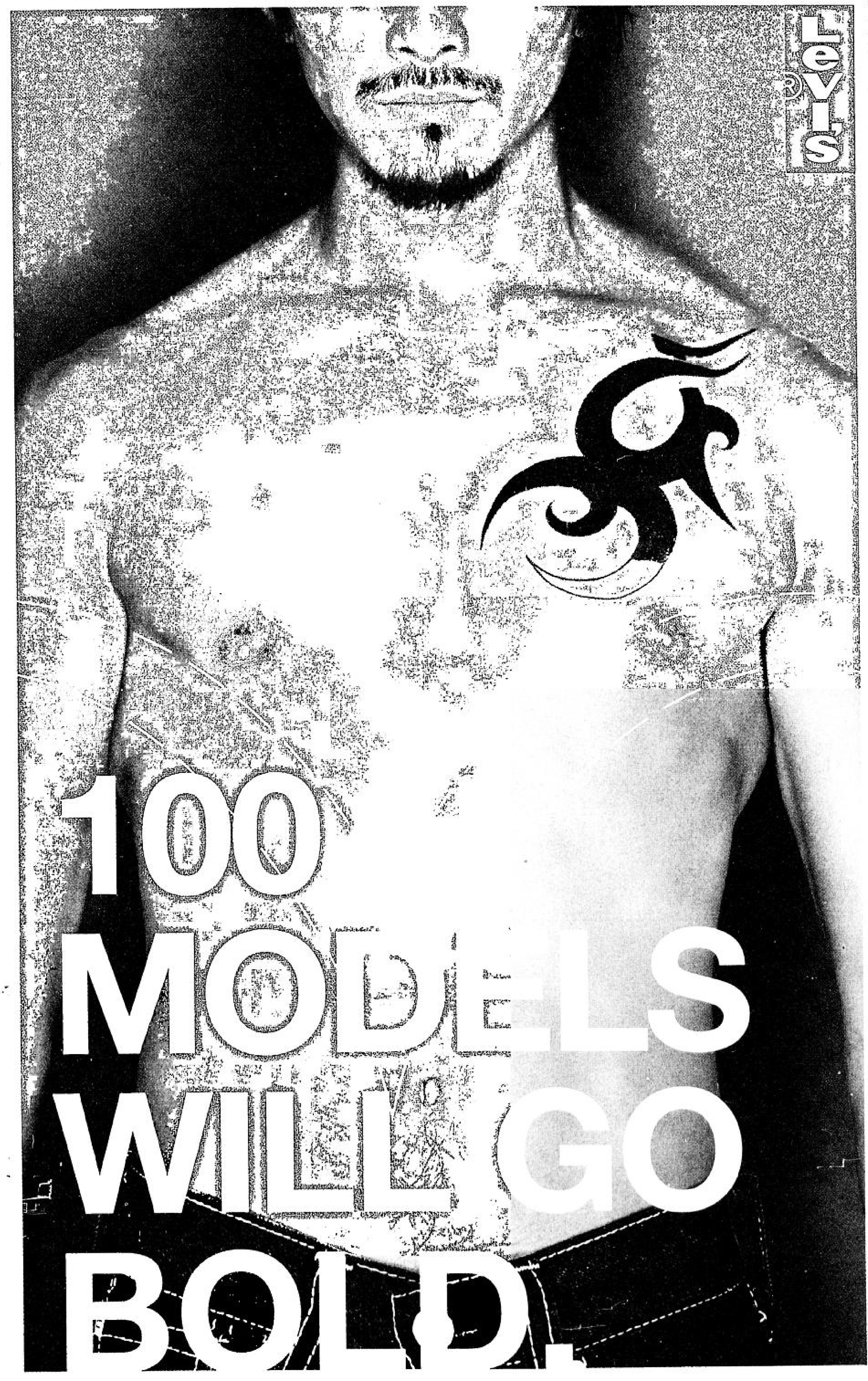
Cole Haan shoes are handmade using only the finest materials. Each pair is handcrafted by a single skilled craftsman, making Cole Haan's shoes unique pieces of modern artisanship.

Cole Haan's Spring-Summer Collections for men and women are available at The Powerplant Mall in Rockwell, Makati, and at Cole Haan boutiques located at Rustan's in Makati, Rustan's Tower (Shaw Blvd.), Rustan's Harrison Plaza and Rustan's Alabang Town Center.



LAWTON and Wilshire

TINA (above) and Pamela



THE LEVI'S® TYPE1 FASHION SHOW
6 PM Saturday April 5, 2003 Glorietta Activity Center Ayala Center, Makati
Directed by Robby Carmona

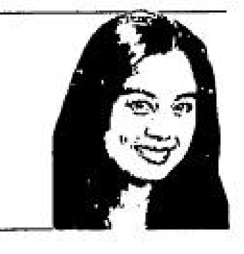
PHILIPPINE FASHION WEEK
summer 2003
areyoutype1.com

Beauty LIFESTYLE

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Beauty events in full swing

MAKEOVER 911



Kinny Salas

THERE were several events (five to be exact) where this author was invited to but I could only go to two of them and sneak a peek at a third. It must have been some feng sui evening as the two events I spied were very sexy.

Obaji Circle of Friends

Dr. Vicky Belo thanked her faithful Obaji users on March 13 at the Rizal Ballroom of the Makati Shangri-La.

The Obaji Circle of Friends were treated to cocktails and free pampering sessions, which included paraffin hand treatment, foot spa and free skin consultations. Coffee from Cinnabon was free-flowing, and the guests indulged in truffles and other delightfully sinful chocolates. Apparently, there were exclusive interviews with Dr. Obaji, who flew all the way from the United States, which this author was not penciled in for I was invited as an Obaji user because I used to buy them as gifts for friends abroad.

We were led to a magenta-colored room fit for East Indian and Balinese royalty. The romantic scents of noted aphrodisiacs jasmine and ylang ylang greeted us as we entered the room, giving everyone a feeling of confidence and well-being.

I left right after Dr. Belo's very gracious speech to the Obaji Circle of Friends, thanking us profusely for our support. It was probably the combination of chocolates, coffee and aphrodisiac scents that left me in party mode, so I decided to squeeze in another event.

Armani Sensi Perfume

The other event was at Kai Restaurant on Greenbelt 2 where the L'Oreal group of companies launched Sensi, the newest scent from Armani. The invitation's attire description was too naughty to resist: Nudes! Cocktails were also served, and we were treated to a brief presentation wherein the motif was East meets West as is the concept of this perfume.

Tessa Prieto-Valdes stood out in her Snow Queen enchantress get-up where she brought old Hollywood glamour to life. *Chinito* and mestizo male models, all very good-looking, walked down barefoot through a fog machine's smoke carrying lit red lanterns. They then stood still as a very toned dancer in a tight red dress enchanted us with her classical ballet moves with interpretative gestures. The men then sprayed perfume in the air, and the scent of vanilla filled the room. Yup, you guessed it, another aphrodisiac.

Just when this thought sank in, male model Kenji Marquez sprayed some on the curve of Tessa Prieto-Valdes' shoulder and neck and took a long, luxurious sniff. The other models then approached other ladies to spray on different body parts, like the neck cleavage, bare abdomen and shoulder. The female dancer then imitated the pose of the Sensi signature model by lying on a long table while stretching like a contented cat.

Human

Next door at Restaurant 12 is the launch of Human apparel introducing Lucky Manzano as one of the signature models. The energy level was for the young to enjoy, and the past two events I went to warmed me up for this.

Beautiful people walked in and out to watch the Human models and Sarah Meier. Lipa Mayor Vilma Santos graced the event and danced with her son. They modeled mainly fitness apparel and casual wear, their target market being high school to college students who are very slim, toned and fit. Show-biz's most beautiful faces like Lana Asanin and Diether Ocampo, among others, walked in and out to socialize.

I regret I only had one body as I heard the Guy Laroche event went great as well. This particular Thursday felt like a weekend street party in full swing.

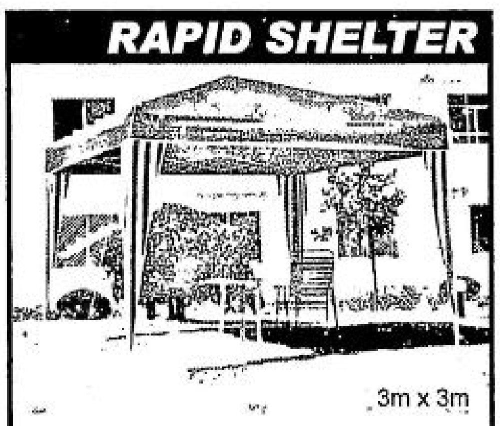
Payday sale

YOU can still shop till you drop—and spend your money wisely—at Jag Jeans payday sale at Robinsons Place-Novaliches, Robinsons Metro East and Robinsons Starmills, Pampanga, on April 30-May 2.

Enjoy up to 50-percent discount on selected items in these Jag Jeans 3-day sale extravaganzas. Get the hottest styles this summer—from teen fave Jag Thug and Lady Thug line, to little fashionistas' Jag Kids collection and the classic Jag styles.

Girls can show curves and skin with bright-colored tees and tank tops paired with low-waist jeans and mini skirts, while guys can look totally cool with printed muscle tees and collared shirts paired with loose jeans and cargo shorts.

RAPID SHELTER



3m x 3m

Sets up in under 2 minutes. No assembly required!

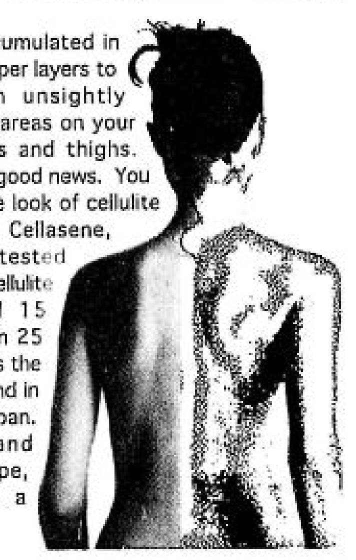
The RAPID SHELTER™ Instant Shade is perfect for

Sales & marketing events
Bazaars & trade fairs
Caterers & resorts
Outdoor dining & leisure
Parties, beaches & picnics
Sports & racing events

Features
- Lightweight, collapsible aluminum frame
- High-quality, Scotchgard™-treated polyester canopy
- Includes a heavy-duty carrying bag

For more information, please call

PINNACLE DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
198 G. Araneta Ave., Sta. Mesa, Quezon City
Tel: 714-2012 Fax: 714-2075
e-mail: pinnacle@info.com ph



Cellulite is accumulated in your skin's deeper layers to bulge out in unsightly "orange peel" areas on your buttocks, hips and thighs. But here's the good news. You can control the look of cellulite in 6-8 weeks. Cellasene, the clinically-tested breakthrough cellulite pill has sold 15 million packs in 25 countries and is the top selling brand in Europe and Japan. Developed and made in Europe, Cellasene is a

The naked truth!

potent blend of natural plant extracts that work naturally within your body. Cellasene may improve the appearance of cellulite on your buttocks and thighs to a firmer, ideal shape. With 2-3 capsules a day, see and feel the difference. And that's the naked truth.

Ask for Cellasene at Rustan's (Shangri-la, Cubao, Harrison Plaza), Mercury Drug and Watsons.
Call 817 1352 InfoText 0917 813 6885

Ready, set, GO!

Level 2, Carousel Court, 10am onwards
April 1-4, 10 am onwards
-Boxing Clinic by Red Corner & Fitness Advantage
- Wall Climbing
April 5, 1:30pm
-2003 Dragon & Wushu Interschool Competition
April 6, 3 pm
- RX 93.1 & Selecta Cornetto Mall Concert Series featuring Parokya ni Edgar
April 7-15, 10 am onwards
-Boxing Clinic by Red Corner & Fitness Advantage
- Wall Climbing

Level 2, Promenade Parking (near Starbucks), 10am - 5pm
April 4-15 - Skateboarding, BMX, In-Line Exhibition/Free Skate
April 6 - BMX Competition (Eliminations)
April 7 - In-Line Competition (Eliminations)
April 8 - Skateboarding Competition (Eliminations)
April 11 - BMX Competition (Finals)
April 12 - In-Line Competition (Finals)
April 13 - Skateboarding Competition (Finals)

Level 3, Commerce Avenue, 10am onwards
April 13- "Chains on Terrains" - A Muntinlupa MTB Fun Race

Sports Sale!!

EXPERIENCE FESTIVAL SUPERMALL
FILINVEST ALABANG
For more information call 8503514
or visit www.festivalsupermall.com

Schedule subject to change without prior notice.

No Boundaries
SURELY YOUR KIDS CAN DO MUCH BETTER THAN THIS.

The Ford Kids Lego Building Contest.

Let their imagination go off-road. Watch them drive through uncharted territories.

Make your children part of the Ford Kids Lego Building Contest.

This contest is open to kids 7-12 years old, and must be sponsored by a Ford owner.
All they have to do is bring to life their bright ideas by building the vehicle of their dreams—with LEGO parts!
The winner gets up to P5,000 worth of LEGO toys and other exciting prizes!
Contact your Ford dealer today for more details.

• Ford Edsa, April 5 • Ford Makati, April 12 • Ford Balintawak, April 26 • Ford Libis, May 3• Ford Cebu, May 3 • Ford Alabang, May 10
• Ford Pampanga, May 17 • Ford Quezon Ave, May 24 • Ford Davao, May 31
Grand Finals (Glorietta Activity Center), June 15

Philippines copyright©2002 by Ford Group Philippines

• Ford Alabang, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang - Zapote Rd., Muntinlupa City. Trunk Lines 342-1681 / 842-4623, Fax No. 807-4490 • Ford Balintawak, EDSA cor. Seminary Road, Balintawak, Quezon City, Trunk Line 927-9618, Fax No. 927-5581 • Ford EDSA, 25 EDSA, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila. Trunk Lines 726-7101 to 15, Fax No. 723-6311 • Ford Libis, 186 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Libis, Quezon City, Trunk Line 637-2044, Fax No. 637-6003 • Ford Makati, 2287 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City 1231, Trunk Line 811-5555, Fax No. 815-0583 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Quezon Avenue corner Apo Street, Quezon City. Tel Nos. 732-3943 / 732-3945, Fax No. 742-1451 • Ford Cabanatuan, Maharlika Highway, Sumacab Este, Cabanatuan City. Tel No. (044) 464-0111, Fax No. (044) 600-4200 • Ford Pampanga, San Fernando - Olongapo Highway, City of San Fernando, Pampanga. Trunk Line (045) 961-2893, Fax Nos. (045) 961-5205 / 961-2277 • Ford Bacolod, Araneta St., Barangay Singcang, Bacolod City. Telefax No. (034) 434-2877 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, National Highway, Gusa, Cagayan de Oro City 9000, Tel Nos. (08822) 855-6811, (08822) 733-777 Telefax (088) 855-0877 • Ford Cebu, Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City. Trunk Line (032) 231-9100, Fax No. (032) 231-9723 • Ford Iloilo, Overseas Road, [illegible] Mandurriao, Iloilo City Tel. No. (033) 321-3851 to 52, Fax No. (033) 321-3351 • Ford Davao, Km. 6, Lanang, Davao City, Tel. No. (082) 234-1111, Fax No. (082) 234-2221• Ford San Pablo, Brgy. Bagumbayan, Maharlika Highway, San Pablo City, Laguna Tel No. (049) 562-8324

The Christian Family as Good News for the Third Millennium (Part1)

Aggie Pinili, Account Manager
sprojects@inquirer.com.ph
Aries Espinosa, Editor

The Year of the Family, The Year of the Rosary, The Year of the Family Rosary

By Fr. James B. Reuter, S.J.

EVERYTIME we say the Angelus, we say: "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us". At the incarnation, in the village of Nazareth, God became man, in the womb of the Virgin Mary. God was with us!

And when Christ our Lord was about to return to his Father, he said: "Behold! I am with you always, even till the end of the world." So God is still with us! Where is he? What does he look like? What does he sound like? How can we reach out and touch God? God looks like the one who is physically closest to you, now, as you read this.....God is in People!

Our Lord made this very clear when he described the Judgement- the only description we have of it. When each of us goes home to God, and stands all alone before that great white throne to be judged, God will say: "So long as you did it to the least of these my little ones, you did it to me!"........................God is in people!

This is spelled out in little words, explicitly, to every religious. The boy studying to be a priest, the girl studying to be a nun, is told: "You must hear the voice of God in the Superior"....This is hard to do because Superiors sometimes make mistakes... Superiors make mistakes, but God does not.....God draws straight, with crooked lines.

There is a story told about John P. Delaney, S.J. He entered the Society of Jesus when he was sixteen years old, with stars in his eyes. He was volunteering, constantly, for the missions. Then the Provincial received a letter from the Ateneo de Manila, from the Rector, saying: "We need a Physics teacher, now! Urgent!"

There were three Jesuits in the Province of New York named John P. Delaney. The eldest was a physics teacher. The Provincial and his consultors meditated on the request. Finally the Provincial said: "Well, If we send one of our best men to the missions, maybe God will bless us with vocations". He called in his Socius, his assistant, and said: "Send John P. Delaney to the Philippines."

The Socius who was one of the consultors, went back to his desk, and looked at the little pile of letters from the young John P. Delaney. He thought: "Ah! The boy is getting what he wanted!" So the youngest John P. Delaney was sent to the Philippines. When the boat pulled into the harbor, in Manila, The Rector of the Ateneo was waiting on the dock. He ran up the gangplank and said to the little group of new arrivals: "Which of you is Delaney?" The young John held up his hand, delighted to be recognized. The Rector said: "Son, I'm sorry to do this to you, but you have to start teaching tomorrow. Here is your textbook."

John looked at the textbook and said: " But this is a Physics book!" The Rector's heart sank. His face fell. He said, hardly able to believe it: "Aren't you a physics teacher?" John said, apologetically: "Sorry. That's the only thing I can't teach!" The Rector groaned. "We need a physics teacher! What do you teach?" John said, hopefully, eyes alight: "English?" The rector moaned: "Oh, no! We have too many English teachers!"

John said, desolate: "Alright. What do I do? Stay on the boat? Go back to New York?" The Rector said: "Ah, well, no. Since you are already here, you might as well stay." As the story goes, that was Delaney's welcome to the Philippines. Superiors might have made a mistake. But God did not. He wanted Delaney in this country. He did magnificent work in Ateneo, and in the University of the Philippines. God was talking through the Superior.

SEATED are Architect Enrique O. Olonan with wife Mrs. Cecilia R Olonan. Standing from left: Architect Henry Steve R. Olonan, John Henry R. Olonan Hencel Paula R. Olonan and Erick Andrew R. Olonan

The same thing happens with women , who are religious Sisters. There was a nun who was a nurse, working in a hospital, in the Visayas, as Director of Personnel. The Superior of the Hospital Community, who was also Administrator of the hospital, was also a nurse but trained in a different school of nursing. The two were constantly in conflict. Both were passionate about their apostolate of nursing, and each one felt that she was right. The hostility between them mounted.

Then the parents of the younger nun came to visit her, from their home on a little God forsaken Island in the far north of the Philippines. They came by boat. The trip took a long time. The only means of communication on their island was mail. They had written their daughter that they were coming, but the letter never got there. Finally, the parents walked into the hospital and asked for the Sister.

The girl at the information counter went to the Superior, announcing that the Sister had visitors. The Superior- who did not know who the visitors were, or where they came from-said: " Oh, no! It is Lent! No visitors during Lent. Please tell them to come back after Easter." The mother wept. But the Father said: " After all, we gave our daughter to God. We must also bear the sacrifice". So they thanked the girl at the information counter, went back to the boat, and took the long journey back to their island.

When the young Sister learned of this, she was wild. She stormed into the office of the Superior, and they had a real cat fight. Nuns are women and women get emotional ......

Then the Superior was made Provincial of their congregation. And her first move was to send the younger nun to a distant foreign mission, outside of the country.

The young nun said to me: "I will leave this religious order! She did that, just to get rid of me! I will leave!" I said: " Please don't leave because of a personality conflict. People come, People go. One Sister is not the congregation. It is like a priest who does. not do everything right. The Priest is not the Church of God. God works through people, even when they make mistakes."

She accepted this, went to the foreign mission, and did beautiful work there. She was the Administrator of a hospital. The new Provincial was really a good nun. She sent her there because she knew that the young nun was competent. Years later, they met again, and became good friends.

The nun must see God in the Superior. The day she says: "I cannot stand the whims of that woman!"—that is the beginning of the end of her vocation as a nun. She will not survive. Just as a priest or brother will not survive unless he sees God in people.

And so it is with every family. A wife must see God in her husband. With all his faults, with all his failures, with all his weaknesses and his sins, in loving him, she is loving God. The world tells her that – if he hurts her – she should hurt him back. Throw him down the stairs. But God says that she should love him, just as God loves her. She must realize that God might have given her to him as a wife, not because she needs him, but because he needs her!

And every husband must see God in his wife, even if she does not do everything right. She is his lot, his share, his dice – from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; until death. He will find happiness only in her. When he kisses his wife, that is his way of showing his love for God.

And parents must see God in their children, even when the child does something wrong. When you are hanging a gold medal around her neck at graduation, than it is easy to be a father. But if she is pregnant, and cannot marry the father of the baby in her womb – that is the test for you as a father. Now she needs you. You must do it like the Gospel – condemn the sin, but love the sinner. When you love her, under trying circumstances, that is your service of God............God is in your child, even when she is delinquent.

And children must see God in their father, in their mother, even when the parents do not do everything right. In this our day, children say things that their parents or grandparents would never have said. They say: " I hate my Father!" or "I hate my mother!" They must see God in their father, in their mother, even when they make mistakes.

This is the Year of the Family. The Year of the Rosary. The Year of the Family Rosary. God is with us. . . . . . .in each other!!!

The First Luminous Mystery
The Baptism Of Christ
Gospel Reading

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me? Jesus replied,"Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:13-17)

The Second Luminous Mystery
The Wedding Feast at Cana
Gospel Reading

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana, in Galilee. Jesus mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine.""Dear woman ; why do you involve me?"Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water", so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine.(John2:1-9)

The Third Luminous Mystery
The Proclamation of the Coming of the Kingdom of God
Gospel Reading

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every desease and sickness among the people. News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various deseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them. (matthew 4:23-24)

The Fourth Luminous Mystery
The Transfiguration
Gospel Reading

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus "Rabbi, is good for us to be here. Lets us put up three shelters-one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah ." He did not know what to say, they were so frightened. Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice come from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"(Mark 9:2-7)

The Fifth Luminous Mystery
The Institution of the Eucharist
Gospel Reading

When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them,"I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the wine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, " This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:14-20)

cdo
FOODSPHERE, INC.
Supports the Christian Family

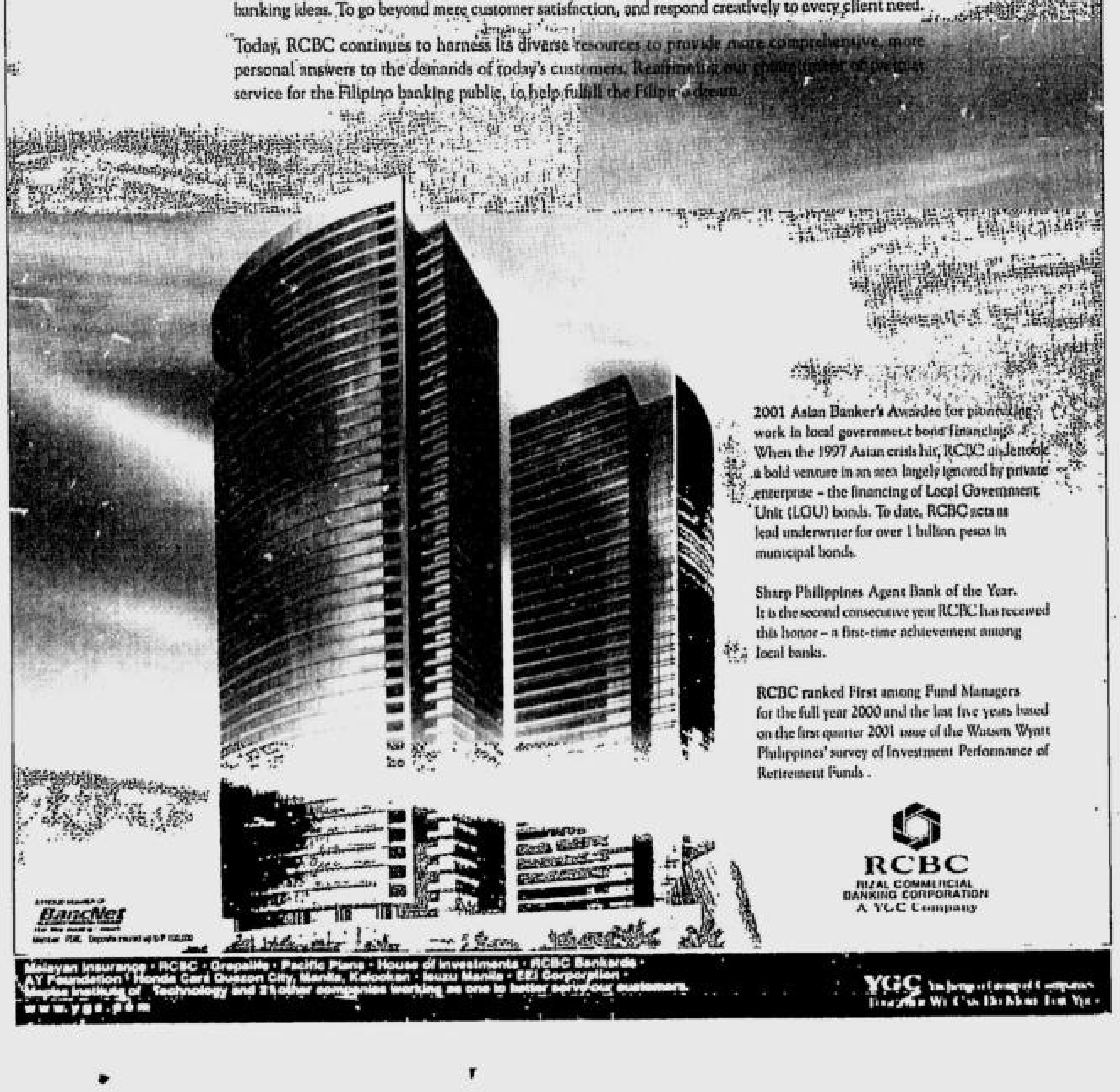
SC Johnson
A FAMILY COMPANY

EXCELLENCE
THE PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE
"IN EVERYTHING WE DO, WE MUST STRIVE FOR PERFECTION."
-AMBASSADOR ALFONSO T. YUCHENGCO

It is the unwavering commitment to provide Filipinos with excellent financial products and services that drives RCBC.

It is our adherence to standards no less than ideal that moves us to seek and develop innovative banking ideas. To go beyond mere customer satisfaction, and respond creatively to every client need.

Today, RCBC continues to harness its diverse resources to provide more comprehensive, more personal answers to the demands of today's customers. Reaffirming our commitment of personal service for the Filipino banking public, to help fulfill the Filipino dream.



2001 Asian Banker's Awardee for pioneering work in local government bond financing. When the 1997 Asian crisis hit, RCBC undertook a bold venture in an area largely ignored by private enterprise – the financing of Local Government Unit (LGU) bonds. To date, RCBC acts as lead underwriter for over 1 billion pesos in municipal bonds.

Sharp Philippines Agent Bank of the Year. It is the second consecutive year RCBC has received this honor – a first-time achievement among local banks.

RCBC ranked First among Fund Managers for the full year 2000 and the last five years based on the first quarter 2001 issue of the Watson Wyatt Philippines' survey of Investment Performance of Retirement Funds.

RCBC
RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
A YGC Company

BancNet

Malayan Insurance · RCBC · Grepalife · Pacific Plans · House of Investments · RCBC Bankards · AY Foundation · Honda Card Quezon City, Manila, Kalookan · Isuzu Manila · EEI Corporation · Mapua Institute of Technology and 31 other companies working as one to better serve our customers.
www.ygc.com
YGC

Pilipinas Group Media, Inc.
[illegible]
AGAPITO S. AURORA [illegible]

St. Paul College Quezon City now DIN EN ISO 9001:2000 Certified

ST. PAUL College Quezon City had recently been awarded the DIN EN ISO 9001:2000 certification. It was held at the Father James B. Reuter, SJ, Theater last March 9, 2003. The certification to DIN EN ISO 9001:2000 covers Delivery of Academic Services and Curriculum Design and Development through Integrative Modular Curriculum Delivery System (IMCDS)

The Certification Audit for ISO 9001:2000 for St. Paul College Quezon City was held last January 29-31,2003. After the three-day evaluation of the academic services of the school particularly the Integrative Modular Curriculum Delivery System, the institution was hereby recommended for the ISO 9001:2000 Certification. This is in line with the reformulated vision and mission of SPQC which stresses the development of quality instruction and design comparable with international standards, quality research, and community extension services; quality management systems, and; ongoing development of intellectual capital in an environment permeated with gospel values.

Being an ISO 9001:2000 Certified gives the institution the greatest advantage over its competitors. As the changing market and technology demands quality products and services, the ISO 9001:2000 puts an institution in the lead. As a consequence, production and supply of second-rate, poor quality products and services were eliminated. Institutions throughout the world are left with just one option to stay competitive and remain alive in the market and thus give focus on their customers.

The creation of the ISO 9001:2000, the latest version of the ISO 9000 series of Quality Management Systems, plays an integral part in ensuring that companies, whether dedicated to production and selling goods or services to customers, devote their business to quality and production with customers needs and requirements as first priority. It is an effective management tool which enables the institution to create an image to lead in the market.

St. Paul College Quezon City recognizes its responsibility as a provider of quality services within the framework of complete satisfaction of its customers. The institution exercise this responsibility through adequate training of its employees adherence to proven procedures, and total commitment to meeting and exceeding customer requirements, and maintaining an organizational culture that fosters continual improvement. Hence, the Quality Policy States:

SPCQ commits to provide Quality Paulinian Education that exceeds customer expectations through the delivery of excellent integral teaching and timely, reliable service in a familial environment highly conducive to continuous learning.

The process Model of the ISO 9001:2000 stresses the importance of customer needs, but it also suggests that to achieve total customer satisfaction, top management , together with all the people involved in every aspect of an institution's operations must get involved and participate in the continual improvement of the Quality Management System. This is based on the Deming Cycle of Plan, Do, Check, and Act (PDCA).

St. Paul College Quezon City is also currently PAASCU Accredited and further granted Autonomy and Deregulated Status by the Commission on Higher Education (Ched) for its enormous contribution to the growth and prominence of tertiary education in the country and Asia Pacific with its consistent committed service in providing quality education, research and community extension work.

ISO International Organization for Standardization – a worldwide federation of national standard bodies.

Certification to DIN EN ISO 9001:2000 covers the scope: Delivery of Academic Services and Curriculum Design and Development through the Integrative Modular Curriculum Delivery System (IMCDS)

ISO 9001:2000

Standard is the core of SPCQ Quality Management System (QMS) which includes the Quality Management Principles.

1. Customer focus
2. Leadership
3. Involvement of people
4. Process approach
5. Systems approach to management
6. Continual improvement
7. Factual approach to Decision Making
8. Mutually beneficial Supplier Relationship

Quality in SPCQ is ....

- providing services to the customers with utmost regard to their needs and requirements.
- Involving people in every aspect of the institution's operations to participate in the continual improvement of the Quality Management System.

SPCQ Policy

SPCQ commits to provide Quality Paulinian Education that exceeds customers expectation through the delivery of excellent integral teaching and timely, reliable service in a familial environment highly conducive to continuous learning.

QMS Benefits

- Promotes customer confidence
- Initiates a world-class management culture
- Attracts investments
- Establishes quality-related policies
- Produces consistency of output driven by properly documented processes
- Reduces failure costs
- Increases customer loyalty
- Increases effectiveness and competency of personnel development

SPCQ DELIVERS INTEGRATIVE MODULAR CURRICULUM DELIVERY SYSTEM (IMCDS)

St. Paul College Quezon City starts offering selected on-line starting June, 2003. Interactive multimedia learning modules in selected subjects shall be issued to students who opted for supplemented on-line delivery beginning First Semester, SY 2003-2004.

The supplemented on-line lesson delivery consists of autonomous interactive modules (ILMS) in CD-ROM issued to students upon enrollment. Students consult their teachers in person on half of the scheduled classroom contact time and on line on the remaining half. The on-line contact time is expanded beyond the hours that the teachers is physically attending to her/his class through a 24-hour messaging facility that accepts and forwards messages and e-mail to teachers.

Initially, this will reduce travel and street exposure time for students enrolled in the on-line mode by half. Later improvements in delivery will enable students from anywhere in the world to enroll at SPCQ. The St. Paul System is present in 22 countries. Each St. Paul school shall serve as a proctoring center to enable administration of graded examinations to on-line students in person.

As the systems develops and student acceptance makes the program viable, completely on-line subjects shall be launched. Foreign students may be able to finish degrees offered by SPCQ with only half (or even less) physical residence time required in the Philippines.

Starting June 2003, freshmen lessons in undergraduate course at SPCQ shall be available in autonomous learning module by module enhanced with 24-hour collaborations site over HTTP:\\WWW\\SPCQ-Online.org

Freshmen will report half of the contact time on campus and the other half online from their home. This reduces travel time and daily expenses to half or less. Enrollees from remote areas who cannot attend on campus sessions personally can take their lessons through synchronous real time scheduled online meetings from their residence or places of work. Validation and summative examinations shall be proctored in the nearest St. Paul school or accredited proctoring center.

For more information please log on to HTTP:\\WWW\\SPCQ-Online.org

The online system is coeducational. Resident students remain exclusively for girls.

COURSES OFFERED ARE:

High School

Bachelor of Science Major in

- Biology

Bachelor of Science in

- Accountancy
- Hotel And Restaurant Management
- Information Technology
- Nursing
- Tourism

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, major in

- Industrial Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- Early Childhood Education Psychology
- Guidance and Counseling

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, major in

- Entrepreneurship
- Management Accounting
- Management

Bachelor of Science in Information Management, major in

- E- commerce

Bachelor of Arts major in

- Religious Education

Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication, major in

- Digital Media
- Theater Arts
- Broadcast Journalism

Centre for Career Development Program

One Year Certificate Programs in:

- Office Assistantship
- Food and Beverage Service
- Care Giver Service

Two Year Diploma Program in:

- Executive Assistantship

Community Extension Program in summer Courses:

- Bartending
- Housekeeping
- Food Preservation
- Computer Literacy
- Waitering
- Basic Cooking

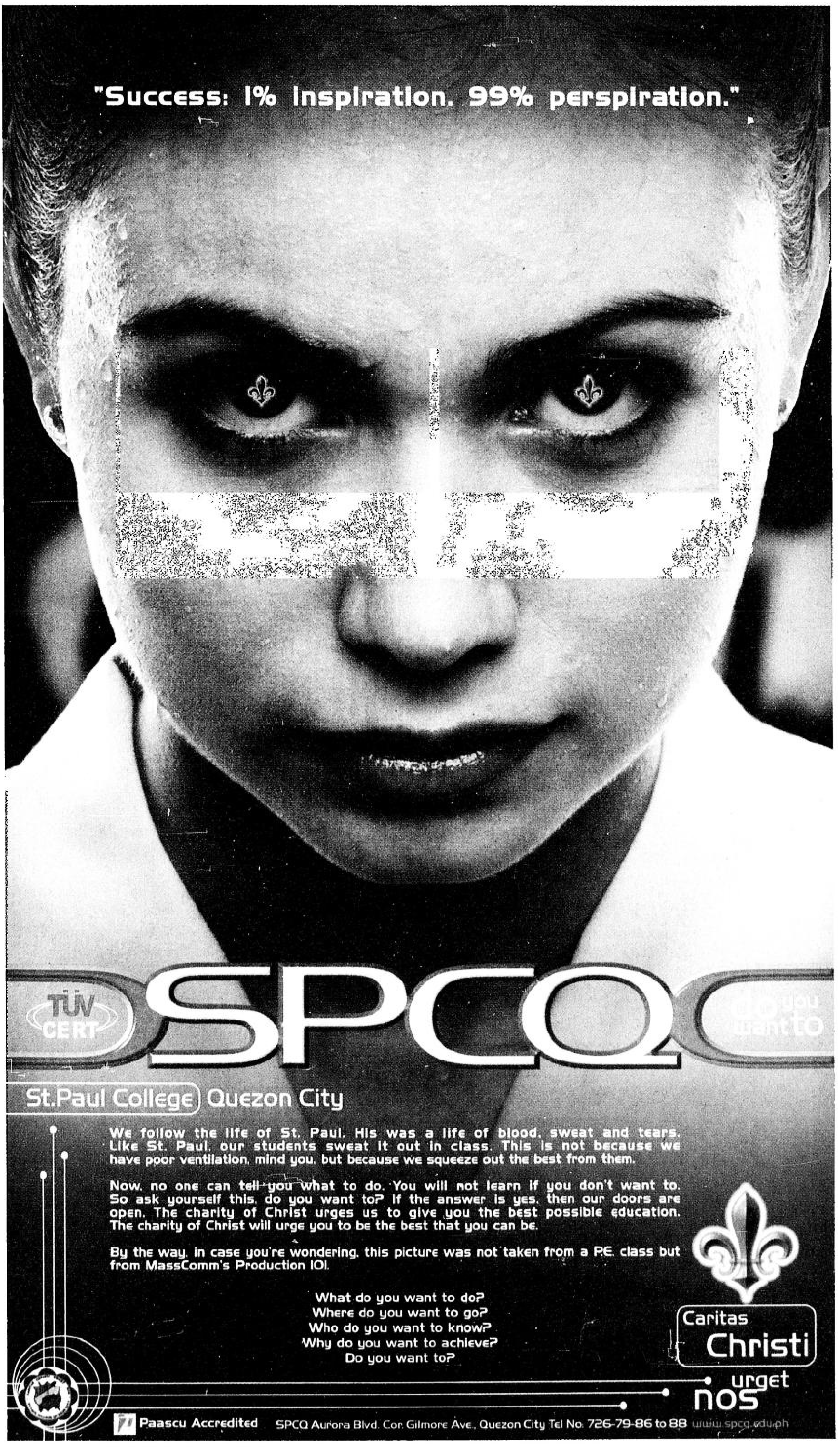
Nugget Courses:

- Customized Program - by arrangement

Special Lessons in Music and Arts

- Piano
- Violin
- Drums
- Voice
- Ballet

St. Paul College Quezon City also offered the Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management, Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, and Centre for Career Development Program at its Extension School in Bocaue, Bulacan.


"Success: 1% inspiration. 99% perspiration."
TÜV CERT
SPCQ
you want to
St.Paul College Quezon City
Caritas Christi urget nos

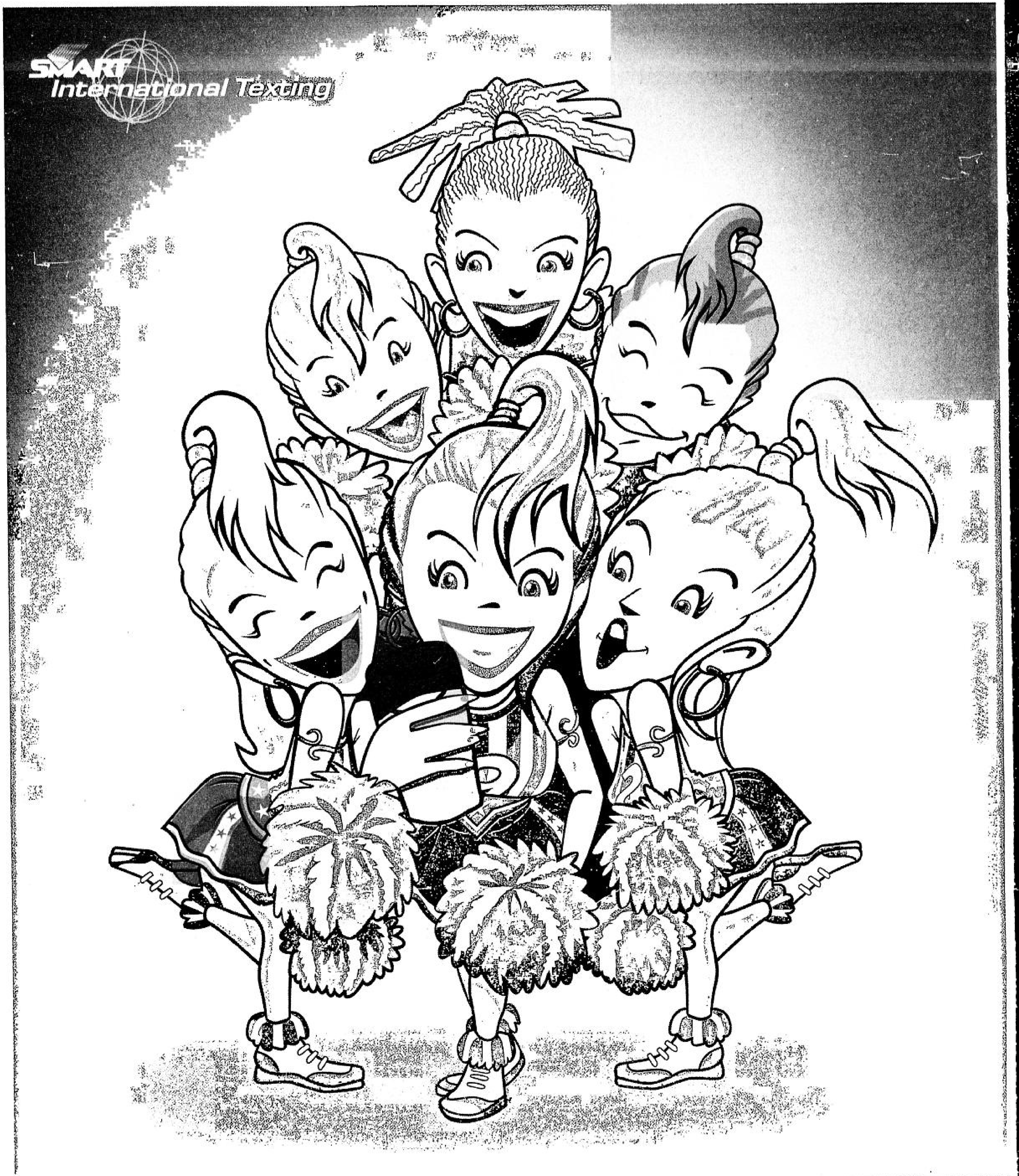
We follow the life of St. Paul. His was a life of blood, sweat and tears. Like St. Paul, our students sweat it out in class. This is not because we have poor ventilation, mind you, but because we squeeze out the best from them.

Now, no one can tell you what to do. You will not learn if you don't want to. So ask yourself this, do you want to? If the answer is yes, then our doors are open. The charity of Christ urges us to give you the best possible education. The charity of Christ will urge you to be the best that you can be.

By the way, in case you're wondering, this picture was not taken from a P.E. class but from MassComm's Production 101.

What do you want to do?
Where do you want to go?
Who do you want to know?
Why do you want to achieve?
Do you want to?

Paascu Accredited SPCQ Aurora Blvd. Cor. Gilmore Ave., Quezon City Tel No: 726-79-86 to 88 www.spcq.edu.ph



SMART is the first to let you send text messages to friends in the US, even if they're non-GSM subscribers.

SMART and Talk 'N Text subscribers can have a good laugh with friends and relatives in the States. If your loved ones belong to any of our GSM or non-GSM partner networks in the US, they can send and receive SMS through SMART International Texting*.

Just text using the following format:

+ • 1 US Country Code • Mobile Access Code • 7-digit Mobile number Then press SEND on your SMART GSM celfone.

Our Network Partners in the US:

3 River PCS
Airadigm
Airlink
Alltel
Amica
AT&T Wireless
Bell Wireless Alliance
Blackfoot
Cell One West
Cellular 2000 – MN
Cellular South Telepark
Cellular XL – Cell One MS
Centennial
CenturyTel
Cincinnati Bell Wireless
Cingular
Clearnet
Conestoga
Dobson Communications
Eatel
Edge Wireless
Farmers – AL
Hickory Tech – Cell One Mankato
Horizon
Inland Cellular
Iowa Wireless
Leap/Cricket Communications
MACtel
Microcell Telecom
Mid-Missouri Cellular
Midwest Wireless
MTS
Nextel
North Alabama Cellular
NPI Wireless
Ntelos – CFW
PCS One
Pine Belt – BCP
Pioneer/Enid
Plateau Cellular
Price Communications – Cell One SE
PrimeCo
Public Service Cellular
Qwest/US West
RCS
Rogers Wireless
Rural Cellular
SaskTel
South Central Utah
Southwest
TeleCorp PCS
Telefonica MoviStar Puerto Rico
Telus Mobility
T-Mobile USA
Tritel/Suncom
Triton Suncom PCS
US Cellular
US Unwired
Verizon Wireless
West Central
Western Wireless
Wireless North

SMART
Simply Amazing!

* Provided that recipient's handset supports SMS and E-mail messaging.

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, text us at 888, e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.